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THE GREAT SOUTHWEST,

OR PLAIN

GUIDE FOR EMIGRANTS AND CAPITALISTS,

EMBRACING A DESCRIPTION OF THE STATES OF

MISSOURI AND KANSAS,

SHOWING THEIR

Topographical Features, Climate, Soil, Timber, Prairie, Minerals,
Water, Amount of Government Lands, Location of Valuable Mineral Lands, the Various Railroad Lines Completed and Projected, Table of Distances, Homestead Law, with incidents of

TWO YEARS' TRAVEL

AND

Residence in Missouri and Kansas,

AND OTHER VALUABLE INFORMATION.

ALSO A

New and Complete Township Map of Missouri and Kansas.

BY WILSON NICELY.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
TO THE READER.—Treasures at Home—Practical Advantages—Uncle's Farm.....	5-6
GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF MISSOURI.—Its Magnitude—Latitude—Temperature.....	7
NORTH MISSOURI.—Timber—Soil—Agricultural Advantages—Mineral—Coal, Lead, Iron—Oil—Water—Commercial Advantages—Towns—St. Joseph, Hannibal.....	7-10
SOUTHERN MISSOURI.—Water—Soil—Timber—The Mineral Resources of Southeast Missouri—Location of Minerals—Iron—Lead—Copper—Gold—Clays, etc.—Commercial Facilities—Cities—Towns—Railroads.....	11-15
SOUTHWEST MISSOURI.—Area—The Topography—The Timber—Soil—Fruits—Grasses—The Water—Rivers—Springs—Grand Falls—Caves—Grand Scenery—Deer—Game—Fish—Northern Arkansas—Fruits—Birds—The Mineral Resources—Location—Coal—Oil—Lead—Iron—Copper—Silver—The Commercial Facilities—Railroads—Towns—Churches—Schools—Government Land.....	15-26
TWENTY-SIX COUNTIES OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI.—Barry—Barton—Bates—Benton—Camden—Cedar—Christian—Dade—Dallas—Donglass—Greene—Henry—Hickory—Jasper—Laclede—Lawrence—McDonald—Newton—Ozark—Polk—St. Clair—Stone—Taney—Vernon—Webster—Wright—Tables of Distances by Railroad and River.....	27-49
STATISTICAL TABLES.....	50-55
GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF KANSAS.—Area—Topography—Soil—Timber—Minerals—Water—Government Land—Railroads—Churches—Schools—Commercial Advantages.....	56-59
TWO YEARS' TRAVEL AND RESIDENCE IN MISSOURI AND KANSAS.	
CHAPTER I.—Introductory—A Night at West Quincy—A Happy Couple—Railroad Adventure—The Iron Horse Gives Out—Bushwhackers—Arrival at Macon—Dry Jokes—St. Joseph, Its Prosperity—Weston—Steamer Emily—Arrival at Leavenworth.....	60-66
CHAPTER II.—Leavenworth, Its Situation, Commerce, Population, Signs of Prosperity, the Fort, Pilot Knob Cemetery—A Journey by Stage Coach—A Rich Country—Topeka, Description—Modern Pioneers—"The Universal Yankee"—Tecumseh, a City of the Past—Lawrence, Its History, Quantrell's Raid, Present Prosperity.....	66-71

SOUTHWESTERN KANSAS.

	PAGE.
CHAPTER III.—Baldwin City—Prairie City—Ohio City—Garrett—Leroy— Burlington—Ottumwa—Hartford—Neosho Rapids—Quaker Settle- ment—Emporia State Normal School—Council Grove—Fort Riley— Indians—Pacific Railroad Lands—Coal Mines—Topeka.....	71-75
CHAPTER IV.—At Lawrence—News of Lee's Surrender—Public Rejoic- ing—The Assassination of Lincoln—Sudden Revulsion of Feeling—The Grief of a Nation—From Lawrence to Leavenworth—Delaware Re- serve—Indian Tribes—Effect of Civilization—Santa Fe Trains—Atchi- son—An Indian Preacher, his Theory Concerning the Failure of Mis- sionaries—Atchison County—Jackson County—Topeka—Burlingame— Ridgeway—Twin Mounds—Clinton—J. A. Beam—Bloomington—Osage Hedges—Dairies.....	75-81
CHAPTER V.—An Expedition to the Cherokee Neutral Lands, the Outfit, Object—J. A. Beam and his Theories—Constitution of the Progressive Fraternity—The Rendezvous at Lawrence—The First Night in Camp— Prairie City—Stanton—Osage River—The Doctor's Adventure—Miami County—Twin Springs—Linn County—Paris—Moneka—Mound City— Fort Lincoln—Fort Scott.....	82-89
CHAPTER VI.—The Missouri Border—Jasper County—A Depopulated Region—Ripe Fruits—Pure Water—Rich Soil—Camp on Spring River— Natural Vineyards—Deserted Homes—Camp on Shoal Creek—Reding's Mill—Grand Falls on Shoal Creek—Beautiful Scenery—Cherokee Farm—A Cherokee—General Appearance of the Country—Return— Cow Creek—Delayed by High Water—Return to Fort Scott—Again at Lawrence	89-93
CHAPTER VII.—Return to Spring River—Refugees Returning Home— Scarcity of Houses—Camp at the Mouth of Centre Creek—On Spring River—Building a Cabin—Gathering Hay for the Winter—Abundance of Game—Hunting Adventures—Wild Hogs—Deer—A Dead Shot—The Osage Indians as Hunters—A Burning Prairie—Vivid Description—A Herd of Deer—Winter Evenings—"The Good Time Coming".....	94-99
CHAPTER VIII.—Expedition to Arkansas—Reding's Mill—Neosho—Pine- ville—A Dilapidated Village—Camp on Big Sugar Creek—Beautiful Winter Scene—A Rich Country—Climate Mild—Myriads of Birds— Winter Grapes—Benton County—Absence of the Schoolmaster—Human Vegetables—A "Native" Rip Van Winkleism—Madison County—Car- roll County—Fruit—Soil—Climate—Our Return to Spring River—Bax- ster's Springs—Fertility and Value of the Lands known as the "Gov- ernment Strip"—Conclusion—"Homes for All".....	99-106
IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ANSWERED.....	107-111
HOMESTEAD LAW.....	112-115

TO THE READER.

The great interest now being awakened with regard to Missouri and Kansas must be taken as a sufficient apology for the publication of this book. No other States, not excepting even Nevada and California, have attracted so much attention, or become so much the theme of remark and inquiry as these. Geographically, they occupy a central position in the habitable part of the continent, forming virtually the heart of the country. The climate, soil, and resources of these States are worthy of this honorable position. No part of the Union is more fertile or better watered, and but few are more salubrious. Why go to the Gulf States or to the Pacific coast in quest of treasures that are hidden at our own doors—that are buried beneath our own feet? Why neglect the practical advantages within our reach for the possible good afar off? Men need not go to Texas or Oregon for homes when thousands of acres of the richest and most productive land on the continent are lying idle in Missouri and Kansas. The eye of the speculator is unhappily adjusted only for viewing remote objects. Its range is telescopic, and hence the images of all near objects are blurred and indistinct. It is with the purpose of correcting such defects of vision that this book has been prepared. The author would place before his readers, in a clear, succinct manner, a correct and faithful description of home lands. They may lack the novelty and romance pertaining to lands remote, but they possess practical advantages which foreign regions do not possess.

Will the reader bear in mind, that of the extensive farm owned by our generous "uncle," the broad acres in the central portion are the richest and best? In time this will be acknowledged, but now it must be demonstrated by facts and figures. Such of these as came under his observation the author has collected and arranged, and in so doing has been more anxious to secure accuracy of statements than beauty of diction, or grace of style. He has aimed at precision rather than elegance, for his object has been rather to give information than amusement to the reader.

The book is not written in the interest of any Railroad Corporation, Emigrant Aid Society, or Real Estate Company, nor has any aid been received from these or any other agencies. The work has been issued solely at the expense of the author, and for its statements he alone is responsible.

The author has added to the work, at a heavy expense, a valuable map of Missouri and Kansas, which will be found useful to the general reader, and especially useful to travelers or persons seeking homes. The map, which has been carefully and elaborately prepared, represents county and township divisions, and gives besides all the county roads, railroads, towns, and villages within the localities described. The book contains also useful tables, giving information regarding the government and mineral lands, distances between important points, etc. These are some of the points in which the author believes this book possesses a real value to those seeking information, and that it will not be without interest to the general reader.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF MISSOURI.

The State of Missouri, which is nearly the geographical center of the continent, lies in the heart of the valley of the Mississippi, its eastern borders being washed for a distance of more than four hundred and fifty miles by the Great Father of Waters, thus occupying a position of commercial importance unsurpassed by any State in the Union.

The State has an area of about 67,500 square miles, or 43,200,000 acres of land. The State contains about 22,000 square miles more than the State of New York, and is about eight times the size of Massachusetts.

Missouri lies between the parallels 36.30 and 40.36 north latitude; it is proverbial for the salubrity of its climate, it having the mean temperature of the temperate zone. The summers are long and pleasant; the winters short and mild. The topography of the State presents such a varied aspect, that in order to give the reader anything like a correct idea of the physical features of the country, we deem it necessary in this description to separate the State into districts, which we shall term North and South Missouri, the Missouri River being the dividing line.

NORTHERN MISSOURI

Has 44 counties with an average of 440 square miles each. The face of the country is undulating and rolling, with but very few hills of any considerable magnitude.

The western portion of this district is very agreeably diversified with prairie and timber lands, there being about an equal portion of each; but in the central and eastern

portions timber is less plentiful, with the exception of a few counties bordering on the Mississippi River, which are covered with a very luxuriant growth of forest trees, consisting of black, white, and burr oak, black and white walnut, hickory, elm, maple, ash, wild cherry, honey locust, mulberry, pecan, cottonwood, etc. This portion of the State is destitute of pine, hemlock, etc.; but of the species enumerated, and many others, there is an inexhaustible supply, and the former, with a trifling expense, is floated down the Mississippi to the various ports in Missouri from the extensive pineries of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Good building stone abounds in this as in every other portion of the State; material for making brick is also plentiful, as the many rich and substantial business houses and dwellings testify.

THE SOIL

In the western portion can scarcely be excelled. It is very productive, and is well adapted to the culture of the various grains and fruits. The country is sufficiently rolling to be well drained, while as before remarked, there are few hills of any magnitude, and these are principally along the bank of the Missouri River, but constitute by no means a leading feature of the country bordering on that noble stream, for its bottom lands are extensive and fertile, often reaching back in gentle undulations far as the eye can reach. North Missouri is generally denominated the agricultural portion of the State, and perhaps deservedly so; for certain it is that the same area of country can scarcely be found in this or any other State possessing superior agricultural advantages. The soil is as rich and fertile as any in the West, and is peculiarly adapted to the culture of the various cereals, grasses, fruits, and vegetables of this latitude, yielding from 40 to 100 bushels of corn per acre; from 15 to 45 of wheat and rye; from 20 to

40 of oats and barley. Hemp and flax yield a profit, under the old system of hackling, of from 25 to 50 dollars per acre, while 200 dollars per acre for tobacco is considered a very ordinary crop.

This portion of the State has unsurpassed facilities for stock growing. Farmers are devoting much of their attention to this important branch of industry, and hundreds of car loads of stock are annually shipped to St. Louis and Eastern cities. The least attractive and, perhaps, most inferior portion of Missouri, is included within the limits of a few counties in the extreme eastern part of the State, where the surface is much broken, presenting many narrow ridges and knolls. These lands are thought by many to be comparatively worthless, but they are especially adapted to the culture of the grape, and many other fruits, and if devoted to that interest could be made to yield as large a profit as the heavier and richer soils.

THE MINERAL RESOURCES

Of Northern Missouri, though not so vast as those of the Southern portion, are nevertheless important. *Coal* is found in 19 counties, to-wit: Callaway, Carroll, Chariton, Clarke, Gentry, Howard, Lincoln, Linn, Livingston, Marion, Mercer, Monroe, Pike, Putnam, Ray, St. Charles, Shelby, and Worth. *Lead* is found in considerable deposits in the counties of Carroll, Howard, Knox, Montgomery, and Schuyler. *Iron* in Knox and Mercer, and *copper* in Gentry and Livingston. There are several *oil* wells in successful operation, and throughout North Missouri indications of oil are numerous.

WATER.

No section of country, of equal extent, affords a greater number of fine streams of pure water. It is bordered on three sides by navigable rivers, east by the Mississippi,

south and west by the Missouri, while the smaller creeks and rivers tributary to those streams are almost innumerable.

THE COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES

Of Northern Missouri are great, and rapidly increasing in importance. The district is bounded on the east, south, and west by navigable waters. The Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad passes through its center from east to west; the North Missouri Railroad running from St. Louis north to Macon City, connects with the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad, and is being rapidly extended north from Macon to tap the Iowa roads; a branch is also being pushed west to Brunswick on the Missouri River. The Platte County Railroad connects St. Joe with Weston on the Missouri River; the St. Joe and Council Bluffs Railroad is completed to Savannah; the Great Western Railroad has also extended its line from West Quincy, on the Mississippi, to Palmyra, where it intersects the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad.

TOWNS.

The principal commercial towns of North Missouri are Hannibal and St. Joseph. The former is situated on the bank of the Mississippi, and is the eastern terminus of the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad, and is a place of considerable importance, containing about 8,000 inhabitants, 11 churches, 5 select schools, 3 public schools, and a Catholic seminary, 1 daily and 2 weekly newspapers. St. Joseph, on the Missouri River, is the western terminus of the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad, and contains about 20,000 inhabitants, being second in size and importance to St. Louis. It is an extensive shipping point, is surrounded by a rich and attractive country, and is rapidly increasing in wealth and influence. Besides these there are in every county fine flourishing towns and villages.

SOUTHERN MISSOURI.

What is here denominated Southern Missouri is bounded on the north by the Missouri River, east by the Mississippi, on the south by Arkansas, and west by Kansas and Indian Territory, including seventy counties. For our own convenience, as well as to give the reader a more definite idea of the topography of Southern Missouri, we will form two divisions by drawing a line from Jefferson City south to the Arkansas border, at the point where the east fork of White River leaves the State of Missouri. The physical features of these sections are in many respects dissimilar; the eastern portion generally rolling and often hilly, and that part bordering on Arkansas hilly, and in many places mountainous. There are, however, many water courses bordered by rich, alluvial bottoms in the northwestern part of this district; and extending south near to the Arkansas line are many extensive and beautiful table lands, which form a leading feature in the topography of this region; while in the extreme southeast there is a large proportion of fertile prairie.

THE SOIL.

In the eastern portion of Southern Missouri is much varied; that along the banks of the numerous water courses is exceedingly rich and fertile, while that on the uplands is of lighter nature, but is well adapted to the culture of the small grains and of fruit. In the northeast there are several counties bordering on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers which will compare favorably with any in the State. The soil is very rich and productive, and all the various grains and fruits grow to perfection. Hemp, cotton, and tobacco are successfully grown, and it is safe to assert that no section of country can surpass this part of the State in the culture of the grape. There are

experienced vine dressers at Hermann, and other points, who have thoroughly tested the soil for grape culture, and they regard this region as the best grape growing locality on the continent. Flax, castor bean, and many other valuable productions, too numerous to mention, are successfully raised, and are a source of great profit.

THE TIMBER

Of Southeast Missouri surpasses that of any other section of the Western States. Her forests are as extensive and varied, and in the course of a very few years will be a source of unbounded wealth. Her forests comprise all the various species found in other portions of the State, such as black, white, and burr oak, of a very superior growth and quality, red, spanish, water, and pin oak, hickory, hackberry, walnut, sycamore, elm, mulberry, etc. ; but of far more importance than all these are her vast forests of yellow pine, which are of very fine growth and quality, and extend through quite a number of counties in the south central portion of the State.

THE MINERAL RESOURCES

Of Southeast Missouri are beyond all estimate, both as to their value and extent. There are huge mountains of almost solid iron, rich and extensive veins of copper, silver, zinc, lead, nickel, and almost every variety of valuable metals. The mineral wealth of Southeast Missouri, though known to exist, is yet far from being fully developed. Notwithstanding there are more than 200 lead mines now being worked, many of which have been in operation for more than 30 years, still new leads of rich ore are being discovered almost every week. Stone of nearly every description, of any known value, is scattered profusely over the whole country. Coal is also found in large quantities in several of the northeastern counties of

South Missouri, and the city of St. Louis is being supplied with thousands of tons annually from these mines. For the benefit of those of our readers, who feel interested in the subject of minerals, we will give a few statistics in relation to the

LOCATION OF MINERALS, IRON, LEAD, ETC.,

Taken from Professor Swallow's Geological Report of his survey of the State of Missouri.

Iron.—There are in Jefferson county three discoveries of *iron*, located in township 39, range 6 and 4; in Franklin county iron is found in seven localities, townships 41 and 42, range 1 and 2; in Crawford county there are eighteen localities, townships 35, 37, 39, and 38, range 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; and in Phelps county there are ten localities, townships 36, 37, and 39, range 6, 7, and 8; in Pulaski county there are four localities, townships 36 and 37, range 11 and 12. It is also found in Ironton county, and many others.

Lead.—There are in Jefferson county forty-one localities where lead is found, in townships 38, 39, 40, and 41, range 3, 4, 5, and 6; in Washington county forty-four localities, townships 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40, range 36, 37, 38, and 39; in Franklin county there are thirty-seven localities, townships 40, 41, and 42, range 1 and 2; in Crawford county there are thirty-six localities, townships 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41, range 1 and 2; in Phelps county there are seven localities, townships 36 and 39, range 7, 8, and 9. Lead is also found in abundance in many other counties.

Copper is found in Franklin county in five different localities, townships 40 and 41, range 1 and 2; in Crawford county eight localities, in townships 36, 38, 39, and 40, range 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The above data will serve to give the reader some idea of the inexhaustible wealth of Southeast Missouri.

Gold.—Nothing is being done toward developing the gold mines of Southeast Missouri, and yet, from assays that have been made by Professor F. Weiss, and others, it is evident that mines are being worked in California to-day which yield a smaller profit than would those of Southeast Missouri.

Clay, etc.—Vast mounds and beds of clay of the most valuable kinds are found in the southeast, from which the finest wares are manufactured. There are also vast mounds of the finest quality of white sand, immense quantities of which are annually shipped to Pittsburgh, Pa., to be used in the manufacture of glass. It is indeed impossible to form an estimate, or even an approximate estimate, of the mineral wealth of Southeast Missouri.

THE COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Of this section are extensive and rapidly improving. The Mississippi River washes its entire eastern border; the Missouri its northern, while the St. Francois and Little rivers afford an outlet for the productions of the southern portion. Add to these advantages the Cairo and Fulton, the St. Louis and Iron Mountain, and the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, and the facilities of Southeast Missouri for commerce become apparent to every one. Its chief shipping point is St. Louis, which is situated on the western bank of the Mississippi, a few miles below the confluence of that stream and the Missouri.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

St. Louis is the largest inland city on the continent, having a population of over 200,000, with upwards of 60 churches, and more than 30 miles of street railway. The

city extends about seven miles along the Mississippi, and about three miles back. Its streets are wide and regularly laid out. Its public buildings, mercantile houses, and residences, will compare favorably with those of any city of the same size and age, and are constructed chiefly of marble, stone, and brick, while its principal hotels, the Lindell and Southern, in regard to size and munificence can scarcely be excelled in any city of the Union. The educational institutions are numerous, and have attained a high degree of excellence. Its manufactures are very important and rapidly increasing, while as an inland shipping point St. Louis stands unrivaled, her steam tonnage being greater than that of any other inland city, the average number of arrivals during the past year being nearly 350 per month.

Jefferson City, the Capital of the State, lies on the Pacific Railroad about 150 miles from St. Louis, and contains 3,000 inhabitants.

Pacific, situated 38 miles from St. Louis on the Pacific Railroad, where that line is intersected by the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, is a thriving town, containing many fine mercantile houses, residences, etc.

Rolla, 113 miles southwest from St. Louis, is located on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, and contains about 3,000 inhabitants, several large wholesale and commission houses, and is a point of considerable business. There are many other towns of less importance which we can not now enumerate.

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI.

We come now to Southwest Missouri, the "Garden of the West," a land yet destined to be celebrated in song and story, in whose history are already interwoven many thrilling incidents.

From the divisions before mentioned the reader will readily understand the term southwest to include that portion of the State south of the Missouri River, and west of the datum line drawn from Jefferson City south to the Arkansas border ; a scope of country embracing the richest soil, the most valuable lead mines, the finest and largest streams of purest water, and the most salubrious climate on the American Continent, and concerning which an interest is now being awakened in the Northern and Eastern states, never before manifested in regard to any particular locality, California perhaps excepted. The southwest has an area of 20,736 square miles, or 13,311,040 acres of land, four-fifths of which is excellent farming land, and beneath the remainder lies buried inexhaustible mineral wealth.

The topographical features of the country are somewhat varied, the western portion being beautifully undulating and diversified with prairie and timber.

Though a vast amount of land in this portion of the State was sold by Government as swamp lands, yet it is nevertheless a fact that a marsh or swamp can scarcely be found in the entire southwest ; it is all sufficiently rolling to be well drained, and yet the western portion, of which we are now speaking, is not broken or hilly, it is nearly equally divided into prairie and timber ; further east there is a greater proportion of timber, and in the extreme eastern counties the proportion is still greater, and the country more broken ; but even here there are many rich, alluvial bottom lands, many small but fertile prairies, and upon some of the most elevated portions of the country there are extensive plateaus of the most fertile soil.

THE TIMBER

Of Southwest Missouri embraces most varieties found in other parts of the State, but is principally oak, hickory,

and walnut. Upon the southern slope of the Ozark Range, however, and in the counties bordering on Arkansas, there is a heavy growth of yellow pine of superior quality, which is very valuable for lumber, and which is now being manufactured to supply the wants of the northern counties, but owing to the terrible ravages of the late rebellion, in the destruction of mills and other property, the demand for pine lumber far exceeds the supply. This objection, however, is being rapidly overcome, and will soon be entirely removed, as capitalists are fast improving the rare opportunities which this portion of the State affords.

There are numerous water courses in the eastern portion of this district, which are invariably bordered by rich, alluvial bottoms, comprising by far the most fertile lands of this section, although, as before intimated, a large portion of the uplands are exceedingly fertile, and well adapted to all the various kinds of grain, fruit, etc., of this climate. The estimate of arable land in the southwest varies somewhat among different writers the author is of the opinion that not less than four-fifths of the entire southwest is, or will soon become valuable farming land, and this estimate is based upon a personal and familiar acquaintance with this portion of the State. A few estimates of the yield of the various productions may not be out of place here, and perchance may interest the reader. *Corn* ranges from 40 to 100 bushels per acre, wheat and rye from 15 to 40, oats and barley from 20 to 45, and potatoes from 100 to 300 bushels per acre. Cotton, flax, and hemp thrive, and tobacco grows to perfection. Indeed, the soil seems specially adapted to the culture of this most profitable crop.

The advantages of Southwest Missouri, as a fruit growing region, are unrivaled, and world renowned strangers and visitors have often expressed the greatest wonder and amazement on beholding the profusion of choice, delicious

fruits, many of which grow spontaneously from the earth. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, and quinces of extraordinary size and flavor are cultivated with the greatest possible success. There is an almost endless variety of wild fruits, which in size and flavor equal the cultivated fruits of many other States. Grapes, plums, cherries, blackberries, gooseberries, strawberries, persimmons, crab apples by no means complete the list of these natural fruits. Many facts exist in regard to the growth and yield of these fruits which seem almost fabulous, and to the stranger perfectly incredible. For instance, from a single vine, near Springfield, Mr. F. Wack gathered in 1865 10 bushels of grapes, which would make 20 gallons of wine, which at \$4 per gallon would amount to \$80, and in Christian county I saw growing upon an area of not more than two acres of land, at least 100 bushels of large wild grapes; and in neither of the above instances had the vines ever received the slightest care or attention, and those interested may readily conclude whether or not *grape culture*, in this region, would be attended with profit and success. Instances like those given are not rare, nor are they confined to any particular portion of the southwest, for scarcely an acre of timbered land can be found destitute of the grape vine, while strawberries, blackberries, etc., etc., grow upon the prairies in the richest profusion. Nearly every farmer has his orchard of apples, peaches, and pears, which rarely ever fail, and, notwithstanding the supply of fruit is far greater than the demand, owing to the fact that this section of the State is so remote from market, yet there are many farmers who realize from \$300 to \$1,000 per year for fruit alone, to say nothing of the endless feast which they themselves enjoy in having an abundance of fruit throughout the year. Those entering upon unimproved lands, by planting a few trees early, will soon have an abundance of fruit, as the

trees grow very rapidly. There are several nurseries in the southwest from which trees can readily be obtained. The principal nurseries are those of J. Vaughan & Co., Springfield, Mo., and R. D. Reynolds, near Buffalo, in Dallas county. These nurseries contain as large and choice varieties of fruit trees as can be found in the West.

THE WATER

Of Southwest Missouri is a subject of special interest and importance. The streams of pure, clear, running water are innumerable, every county being liberally supplied. The principal streams are the Osage, Grand, Sac, White, James, Elkhorn, Niangua, Pomme de Terre, and Spring Rivers. The Osage enters the State from the west in the northern part of Bates county, flows in a northeasterly course, and discharges its waters into the Missouri River, about twelve miles east of Jefferson City. This stream is navigable, for light draft boats, to the confluence of the Little Osage, and Osage proper, near the western border of the State. None of the other streams are navigable, and they are all noted less for their size than the purity of their waters. They are clear, cold, and rapid in descent, and afford many excellent mill sites. On Spring River alone there are fifty unimproved sites furnishing good water power. This really beautiful stream drains the finest agricultural portion of the entire west, and is fed by some of the finest and boldest springs in the world. This country is remarkable for its magnificent fountains of crystal water, among the most noted of which are *Cedar Spring*, in Camden county, which bursts forth from beneath a low cliff in the hilly range bordering on the Osage River, and rushes down over its rocky bed with a sufficient volume to propel any ordinary machinery.

The Upper and Lower Big Spring, the former rising in Dallas, the latter in Camden county, are truly nature's

masterpieces of workmanship, and are a source of pride to the country, as well as delight to the strangers. The latter spring discharges 2,000 cubic feet of water per minute.

There are many objects of interest and curiosity in this highly favored region, not the least of which are the Grand Falls on Shoal River, in Newton county. The stream is about 200 feet wide, and 18 inches in depth, and falls perpendicularly from a ledge of solid rock 12 feet high, and continues to rush madly on over the rocks below. Further up the stream there is another fall of eight feet. There are numerous caves in every part of the southwest, many of which are objects of peculiar interest to the student of nature. There is a cave about two miles north of Ozark, in Christian county, which is 100 feet wide at the entrance, and 35 feet in height, and extends back a distance of 400 feet, where the dimensions are reduced to 50 feet in width, and 25 feet in height. At this point a fine stream of water, which comes rushing out from the unexplored depths beyond, falls over a ledge of rocks, and passes out underneath the floor of the cave. The walls present many strange and interesting pictures, which are supposed to have been traced by the hands of a race now extinct. It is really a romantic spot, and may justly be termed one of the Great Spirit's grand natural concert halls, where the music of the invisibles still echoes to the ear of the thoughtful.

Wood's cave, twelve miles southeast of Springfield, is another grand and interesting sight. There are a thousand objects of interest to the lover of nature. To such there can be no greater pleasure than to ascend one of those high mounds which forms a natural observatory, and drink in at a single glance the magnificent scenery of the prairie, with its herds of cattle quietly grazing, and its bounding deer, the beautiful woodlands, the majestic hill,

and the romantic dell, and listen to the music of the waters as they ripple over their stony bed.

No section of country offers a finer or more extended field for the sportsman—deer, geese, turkeys, prairie chickens, raccoons, quails, opossums, otter, beaver, mink, etc., abound in all the more unsettled portions of the southwest.

While on a hunting expedition in 1865, in Jasper county, in company with three other persons, in passing over a mound upon the prairie, I came suddenly upon a herd of deer, numbering twenty-six; I succeeded in bringing down one of the number, but my companions came up too late to get a shot. I saw no less than fifty deer during the day, and had I been accustomed to the chase could doubtless have largely increased my stock of game. Deer may often be seen in herds of from six to ten, quietly grazing upon the prairie, or bounding along with the speed of the wind, pursued by the never tiring hunter.

The innumerable streams of pure, clear water, are filled with the choicest kind of fish, such as trout, bass, eels, etc.

In speaking of the beauties of nature I will add, that were some of the most ardent devotees to its study to visit with me some of the southern counties, and gaze upon some of those high precipices, covered with cedar and pine, they would discover new beauties in nature's handiwork.

In 1866 I visited the extreme southwest of Missouri, and Northwest Arkansas, and while standing on some of those high peaks, where I could see at a glance all the surrounding country, I was reminded of the hills on the Evergreen Shore, so sacred to the lovers of music, and my soul was refreshed, and I was impelled to express thanks to God for the many beautiful works of his hand. During the same visit I found in the deep valleys immense quantities of wild grapes, called winter grapes, and here too I

discovered where our northern birds seek and find their homes during the long, cold months of winter. Myriads of them were congregated in the trees along the valleys; their delightful warblings greeted my ears on every side, making the air vocal with their sweet melodies. Surely, thought I, these must be angels' songs, and this earth's Paradise.

THE MINERAL RESOURCES

Of Southwest Missouri are beyond all estimate, almost every county, south of the Missouri River, containing one or more kinds of valuable ore. In the eastern counties are found *silver, copper, lead, iron, zinc, tin, nickel, platina, emery, marble, granite, etc.* While in the central and western counties *iron, coal, and lead* exist in large deposits. *Copper* is found in several of the central counties, but as yet but little has been done toward bringing it to the surface, and the same is true of *iron*; but the *lead* mines of the central and western counties are thought by many experienced miners to be the richest in the world. Although there is no railroad communication with this portion of the State, yet these mines have been worked with great success for upwards of thirty years, and thousands of tons have been hauled on wagons to the various shipping points. There are several furnaces now in active operation, and others being constructed. There are more than 500 localities where lead is found, and about one-half of these mines are now being developed. There are many positive indications of lead, iron, and copper on government lands, yet subject to entry. Coal underlies nearly all of the western counties. It is of superior quality, and is used in every neighborhood for smithing, and other purposes. Upon the completion of the Southwest Pacific, and other projected railroads, coal, which will then have an outlet, will become an object of great importance.

According to Professor Swallow's report it covers an area in the southwest of 26,000 acres, which, if fully developed, would supply the entire west. *Coal* mines are now being worked in Jasper, Barton, Vernon, Dade, Cedar, St. Clair, Henry, Bates, Cass, Pettis, Lafayette, and several other counties. *Oil* is found in several places, and indications are numerous. *Lead* mines have been opened in Newton, Jasper, Barry, Stone, Christian, Taney, Webster, Camden, and Benton counties, and are yielding large profits. There are indications of lead in Green, Lawrence, Dade, Dallas, Hickory, Laclede, Wright, Douglas, Ozark, and other counties. Granby, in Newton county, is the principal mining town, and is growing rapidly. H. Blow & Co., of St. Louis, have a large furnace established here, which is kept in constant operation. Horton, Moon & Co. from one shaft raised 25,000 pounds of lead ore in two weeks, with twelve workmen, which is worth upon the ground \$28 per thousand pounds, making a total value of \$70,000 in two weeks; and in Christian county, in the fall of 1866, two men, with the aid of an old axe and a hand-spike, dug 1,400 pounds in one day. This mine had been but recently discovered, and similar ones are being found almost every week.

Professor Swallow reports *iron* in two localities in Laclede county, to-wit: Township 36, range 1 and 4, and one in Webster county, township 19, range 18; in Green county there are sixteen localities, townships 27, 28, 29, and 30, range 20, 23, and 24; in Lawrence county two localities, township 28, range 26 and 27; in Stone county three localities, townships 25 and 26, range 23 and 25.

He reports *copper* in Green county in two localities, in townships 29 and 30, range 24; in Lawrence county one locality, township 29, range 25; in Dade county one locality, township 30, range 25; in Taney county one locality, township 26, range 19.

He reports *lead* in Laclede county in township 26, range 16; Webster county, township 27, range 19; Christian county ten localities, township 26, range 19; Taney county, township 26, range 19; in Green county two localities, townships 27 and 29, range 21; Lawrence county two localities, townships 25 and 26, range 25; Barry county, township 25, range 25; in Newton county twenty-one localities, townships 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, range 30, 31, and 32; in Jasper county fifteen localities, townships 27, 28, and 29, range 31, 32, 33; in Wright county five localities, township 29, range 12. The above mentioned are the most important mines that have been discovered, although many more less valuable might be enumerated.

THE COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Of Southwest Missouri are as yet limited, there being at present no railroad communication with this portion of the State, with the exception of the Union Pacific Railroad. There are, however, several railroads in process of construction, and others contemplated. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, of which the present western terminus is Little Piney, is being rapidly pushed forward, and is already completed to Little Piney River, twelve miles west of Rolla, and will be constructed as far as Springfield within a year, and to the western border of the State within two years. The Tebo and Neosho Railroad, which is contemplated to run from Sedalia on the Union Pacific Railroad, through Fort Scott, in Kansas, on to the rich and fertile valley of the Neosho River. The counties along this line have voted bonds liberally to assist in carrying forward the enterprise, and there is now every prospect that the railroad company will speedily commence breaking ground. The Union Pacific Railroad, which traverses the State from St Louis, in the east, to Kansas City, in the west, affords convenient shipping points for

the northern portion of Southwest Missouri. Sedalia on the Union Pacific, and Rolla on the Atlantic and Pacific, are the principal shipping points to this portion of the State. There are excellent wagon roads to and from these, and all other points.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

Under the new order of things seem to rise as if by magic, and now every town and village has its churches and school houses. The old and defective code of school laws, which was in force prior to the late rebellion, have been supplanted by a new and more perfect system. The school law of Missouri is now very similar to that of Ohio, and under its wholesome influence and effects, the educational interests of Southwest Missouri are rapidly assuming importance and vitality. The people of Southwest Missouri are kind and generous, and always ready to extend their hospitalities to strangers who may visit or come to reside among them.

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

Are *Springfield*, the seat of Green county, and the center of trade in the southwest, which has a population of 3,000 (exclusive of the colored), several churches, academies, schools, etc.

Warsaw and *Osceola* on the Osage, *Bolivar*, *Mt. Vernon*, *Carthage*, and *Granby*, farther south and west. There are many other little towns which are being rapidly built and fast coming into note.

GOVERNMENT LAND.

From the officers of the land office, located at Springfield, I learn that there are about 2,000,000 acres of government land yet subject to entry in that district, which embraces twelve counties. Below is given a table

showing the number of acres of government land subject to entry at \$1 25 per acre, or under Homestead Bill at \$16 per 160 acres.

Camden county has.....	250,000	acres.
Barry " " 	300,000	"
Benton " " 	50,000	"
Cedar " " 	20,000	"
Christian " " 	50,000	"
Dade " " 	20,000	"
Dallas " " 	100,000	"
Douglas " " 	300,000	"
Green " " 	20,000	"
Hickory " " 	50,000	"
Laclede " " 	100,000	"
Lawrence " " 	40,000	"
McDonald " " 	200,000	"
Newton " " 	50,000	"
Ozark " " 	300,000	"
Polk " " 	25,000	"
Stone " " 	200,000	"
Taney " " 	300,000	"
Texas " " 	100,000	"
Wright " " 	200,000	"
Webster " " 	100,000	"

Some of the above lands are within the railroad limits, and would rate at \$2 50 per acre. They embrace many acres of choice farming lands, rich mineral lands, and valuable timber lands, some of them as good as the State affords.

TWENTY-SIX COUNTIES OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI.

BARRY COUNTY

Is situated in the southwest corner of the State, and is bounded on the south by the Arkansas line. The land is generally undulating, and the valleys are fertile, with a good division of prairie and timber. There are few counties in the State where greater inducements are offered to those wishing to engage in farming, mining, manufacturing, or stock raising. All kinds of grain, fruit and vegetables return an abundant yield. Building material, both stone and wood, is plenty. The north part of the county is rich in lead ore, and mines have been successfully operated. This county has 300,000 acres of government lands subject to entry. Extensive pineries are found in the south part. Cassville is the county seat.

BARTON COUNTY

Embraces an area of 600 square miles, and is bounded on the west by the Kansas line. The land is principally prairie, remarkably fertile, high, level, and well drained. Extensive groves of timber are scattered over the county, consisting of linn, hickory, oak, locust, walnut, sycamore, cedar, cottonwood, and elm, of which there is sufficient for all practical purposes. The greater part of the county is underlaid by the best coal, and many beds are being worked with success. Limestone and sandstone, clays and sands, for building, are very abundant. Since the close of the war the county has been rapidly filling up, is

in a prosperous condition, and unquestionably presents great inducements to farmers and stock growers. Lamar is the county seat.

BATES COUNTY

Is situated in the northwestern part of Southwest Missouri, on the Kansas line, comprising 537,600 acres of very rich land. The surface is undulating, with about an equal division of prairie and timber. The soil is excellent for all agricultural purposes. Grain and grass of all kinds flourish. Coal is found in abundance, and indications of petroleum are numerous. Water is plenty, fully furnished by the Osage and south fork of Grand River, which, with their branches, run through the county. Butler, the county seat, is the principal town of the county, and is growing finely.

BENTON COUNTY

Is located near the centre of the State, and comprises 453,800 acres of land. The surface of the county is undulating and hilly—about one-half prairie, the remainder fine timber. The soil in the bottoms of the Osage and Pomme de Terre rivers and their tributaries is remarkably fertile, and will yield to the acre 100 bushels of corn, 30 bushels of wheat, 35 bushels of oats, while for the production of hemp and tobacco it is equally good. The uplands produce wheat, oats, barley, &c., plentifully, and are especially adapted to fruits and grasses. Good springs are numerous, and supply an abundance of water. The timber consists chiefly of oak, hickory, walnut, elm, etc. Stone for building purposes is plenty. Iron, copper and lead are found in various parts of the county. A. H. Melton, of Warsaw, is now extensively engaged in developing the mineral resources of Benton county, and is meeting with

success. Warsaw, the county seat, is situated on the Osage river, and is a beautiful town, with a considerable number of wholesale houses, good public buildings, fine dwellings, and an enterprising class of citizens. Steamboats ply between this place and St. Louis.

CAMDEN COUNTY

Is situated about thirty miles southwest of Jefferson City. The surface of the country is rolling, and in some places hilly. The uplands are well adapted for fruit growing and stock raising, while the bottoms are very fertile. The country is well watered by the Osage and Big and Little Niangua rivers, with their tributaries. Timber is abundant. Indications of mineral are promising. There are about 300,000 acres of government land yet subject to entry in this county. Linn Creek is the county seat, and is a flourishing town, situated on the Osage.

CEDAR COUNTY

Has an area of about 450 square miles, and is separated from the Kansas line by Vernon county. The western part of the county is principally level and fertile prairie. The eastern half is more rolling, with an abundance of good timber. The soil is well adapted to all agricultural purposes, and especially to stock raising and fruit growing. The whole country is well watered by never failing streams. The Sac river traverses it, and, with its tributary creeks, furnishes a large amount of water power, which is yet mostly unimproved. There is an abundance of stone coal, which is, however, yet waiting to be developed, and is at present only used for neighborhood purposes. The prospect for oil in the northern part is fine. Stockton, the county seat, is rapidly recovering from the effects of the late war, and presents an inviting appearance.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY.

BY DR. J. P. OWEN.

This county contains 571 square miles, and is separated from the Arkansas line by Stone and Taney counties. The streams that traverse its territory are Terrell, James, Wilson, Finley, Bull, Stewart, Swan, and their tributaries, and there is hardly a mile along them that does not present a good site for mills or machinery. While the bottoms are the finest of agricultural lands, the bluffs of limestone and flint are warranty against any overflowing. There are now on Finley creek five mills, and on James one, the latter run by steam. On Bull creek there is one mill and distillery. On Swan creek sites for steam work are plenty, and water abundant. In every section of the county are pure and lasting springs, and where springs are scarce water may be easily obtained by digging.

Between James and Finley is a prairie country, which produces the finest grain of any section of Southwest Missouri, with timber in abundance. There are now about 45,600 acres of the land of the county in cultivation, and produce to the acre, on an average, about as follows: corn, 40 bushels; oats, 20 bushels; wheat and rye, 15 bushels; barley, 30 bushels. The grasses grow as well here as in the choicest parts of Kentucky. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, quinces, cherries, and other fruits grow as well as in any portion of the State. Wild grapes, whortleberries, and gooseberries are found in profusion. To the tobacco grower, no country offers more inducements than this county. The land is first class, and is being rapidly filled up by a hardy, industrious class of settlers. On the south side of Bull creek is a pinery, consisting of 3,500 acres, in which there is one steam mill engaged in sawing lumber.

On the breaks of Bull and Swan creeks are fine indications of lead. In 1861 there was a large mining business

carried on there, which was stopped by the late war. Now two large smelters are being built, and a large number of persons are making arrangements to open these deposits again. The ore is the finest quality of east-and-west mineral, and is found at all depths. Many of the shafts pay from the surface. These mines and indications cover an area of about eighteen by twelve miles. There are three villages in the county: Ozark, the county seat, Kenton, and Swanville. The county, being on the Ozark range, has one of the healthiest locations of Southwest Missouri.

BY HON. JAMES O. JONES.

Christian county was first settled in 1840, and organized in 1860, having then a population of about 4,200. The first county court was composed of Judges Hall, Cornag, and Morley, and was held at Ozark.

The whole county is well supplied with springs and streams of pure and soft water. The timber is chiefly oak, interspersed with maple, walnut, ash, linn, sycamore, and elm, with an undergrowth of blackberry, sumac, and hazel. About one-third of the whole surface is adapted to cultivation, the balance to grazing. There are now in good running order four grist mills, two saw mills, one cotton gin, two carding machines—all by water, and power to spare. But its chief source of prospective wealth is *lead*. Before the war there was smelted at the Bray Furnace not less than 600,000 pounds of ore. The furnace and diggings, until within a short time, stood just where the war left them, being the property of absent rebels. The Bray Furnace is now in loyal hands, who have commenced operations. Another is being built on the farm owned by Mr. Burkhart. Fine samples of the mineral are found and dug all over that part of the county, beginning

in township 24, range 20, and extending eighteen miles to the county line. On section 16, township 24, range 20, a recent discovery was made which yielded to each hand 700 pounds of choice mineral per day. Bray's diggings produced, before the war, 600,000 pounds of mineral; Roberts', 3,000 pounds; Burkhardt's, 12,000 pounds; McFadden's, 20,000 pounds; Watkins', 30,000 pounds; Hayes', 1,500 pounds. On my own land, section 6, township 26, range 18, are two undeveloped discoveries; but with such the county abounds. Here is a great field for experienced miners. The inhabitants are communicative and hospitable.

This county has 100,000 acres of government lands subject to entry at \$1.25.

DADE COUNTY

Embraces an area of 432 square miles, and is separated from the western line of the State by Barton. The face of the country is undulating, and in some places broken. The western part is generally prairie, the eastern being more thickly timbered. The soil is fertile, and well adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of grain and fruits. The Sac river and its tributaries water the whole county, and furnish good water power for machinery, much of which is yet unimproved.

Copper, iron, and coal have been found in various parts of the county, and there are frequent indications of coal oil. Timber in abundance is found along the valleys, and is sufficient for all practical purposes. Grass grows in great profusion, and affords an abundant pasture for stock. Greenfield, the county seat, is pleasantly located, is rapidly improving, and supports a truly interesting and loyal paper, *The Greenfield Vidette*.

DALLAS COUNTY.

BY A. B. MADDEUX, COUNTY CLERK.

About one-fourth of this county is beautiful prairie, the remainder timbered, with prairie valleys interspersed. The Big Niangua river runs nearly north through the entire length of the county, with a number of tributaries. The country for three or four miles each side of the Niangua river is broken, but very well timbered. The river is about forty or fifty yards wide, with a swift current, and has an abundance of water at all seasons of the year to drive any ordinary machinery.

* * * * *

There is a large quantity of prairie valley and hickory barren lands, affording a large quantity of arable land, adapted to the raising of corn, wheat, rye, oats; timothy, and herd grass; and as fine fruit lands as any in the world, especially for apples, péaches, pears, plums, and the grape, to the cultivation of which considerable attention is being paid. I believe Southwest Missouri is the best portion of the State, and Dallas county is the best in the Southwest for this purpose.

Limestone and sandstone for building purposes abound. Cannel coal has been found. Lead is found in the valleys in various portions of the county, and is picked up on the borders of the streams. There are several corn mills, and one planing mill, located on Big Spring, one of the largest springs in the State. There are 49,923 acres of improved land in the county, and 89,317 of unimproved. The population is about 5,000. Stock raising is carried on to a considerable extent. To conclude, Dallas county has better water power, and more of it, than any county in the State; is the best fruit, grain and grass growing county; a fine stock raising county; good corn and wheat lands; a fine climate, pure water, and a most healthy locality.

With our resources almost entirely undeveloped, this county offers rare inducements to the industrious and thrifty emigrant, as well as the merchant or manufacturer. There are 100,000 acres of government land in this county subject to entry, at \$1.25 per acre.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Is separated from the Arkansas line by Ozark county, and contains 540 square miles. The face of the country is rolling and hilly. The soil in the valleys is good for grains, fruits, etc., while the uplands are adapted to grazing. The great value of this county is in its extensive pineries, which are now furnishing lumber to the adjoining counties. It is well watered by the two eastern forks of White river, which afford numerous locations for mills and machinery. There are 300,000 acres of the government land as yet unentered. Vera Cruz, the county seat, is situated on White river, near the center of the county.

GREENE COUNTY.

BY HON. S. H. BOYD.

Greene county embraces about 688 square miles, mostly situated on the rolling plateaus of the mythical Ozark range, 1,500 feet above the level of the sea, and 797 feet higher than the city of St. Louis, from which it is distant about two hundred and forty miles. A central line from east to west, along the surveyed line of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, will divide the waters of the Missouri from the Mississippi. At this day it would be approximately true to divide the county—two-thirds woodland, and one-third prairie; one-half of the woodland being broken, and bearing much small, irregular shaped stone. This land grows fine wild grasses, and in many places the

economical farmer, by sowing blue grass and herd grass, makes it subservient to horses, mules and cattle for pasturage, and it is the best of sheep pasturage. The remainder of the woodland is known by the name of "hickory barrens" and "oak flats," and bottom lands lying along the various streams which water the county. The barrens and flats bear the finest yield and quality of chewing tobacco. The bottoms yield a great abundance of grain, cereals, grasses, potatoes, and tobacco, not inferior in quantity and quality to any lands in the same latitude.

The other one-third of the county is prairie, rich in soil and production to the highest degree. James Fork of White river meanders through the southern portion of the county, and furnishes numerous sites for all kinds of machinery. The county is well supplied with cool springs, which are but little warmer than ice water. About one-fifth of the farms are supplied with spring water, offering invaluable conveniences, especially to the stock raiser. Some very large springs afford a column powerful enough for mills of the mercantile class.

The water power facilities of the county, which can be applied readily to machinery, is second only in importance to the vast *agricultural* resources of the county. The number of eligible water power sites is set down as thirty-three in the county, not embracing the large springs, which are little short of twenty-five.

The woodlands comprise the oak, walnut, wild cherry, hickory, mulberry, redbud, linn, or basswood, hackberry, maple, and ash; and is quite sufficient for all the wants of the surrounding country. The underbrush consists of the hawthorn, hazel, sumac, pawpaw, and dogwood, a growth which is evidence of the finest quality of soil. Wild plums, crab apples, gooseberries, grapes, strawberries, blackberries, dewberries, haws, and raspberries, grow profusely throughout the woodland and skirts of the prairie.

About 30,000 acres of land are yet vacant, and subject to entry at the land office in Springfield. About 120,000 acres belong to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, the greater part of which is the finest land in the county. It was drawn from the market about eighteen years ago. Now the Company, under the wise and far-seeing guidance of Gen. John C. Fremont, President, and Levi Parsons, Vice President, with J. P. Robinson, Chief Engineer, and Arrowsmith and Gen. Salomon, as Assistant Engineers, and an experienced Board of Directors, will soon place these lands in the market. Preparatory to this, Gen. Albert, Land Superintendent of the Company, has already selected and appointed Messrs. Harwood, Lisenbey & Co., at Springfield, to classify and rate the lands of the Company. The bonds of the road, now in the market at eighty cents, will be taken at par for these lands. In fifteen months these lands will be in the market. It is to be hoped that the wisdom of the Company will make sale to actual residents and practical farmers. One of the Directors, an old citizen of Greene county, is of the opinion that the Company will sell its lands in this county to actual settlers, and secure them a patent from the State by executing the obligation of the Company to the purchaser upon the final payment of the purchase money. Messrs. Harwood, Lisenbey & Co.'s records of sales of lands show that prices paid for unimproved land range from \$5 to \$30 per acre, and for improved from \$8 to \$40 per acre, and that about \$250,000 have been given for lands in the past six months. Fine limestone and cotton rock, for building, are found in extensive quarries. Bituminous coal has been discovered about nine miles from Springfield. Ochre is found in the eastern part of the county, near the James Fork, and with it silver is supposed to be.

There are about 100,000 acres of land in cultivation in

the county, twenty-two flouring mills, eleven saw mills, and a population of 15,000, with a greater increase than ever before experienced. Settlers from all the Northern and Eastern States are rapidly filling up the county. Wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, tobacco, buckwheat, potatoes, flax, hay, blue grass, and clover, are the staple productions of the county. The average yield of wheat for ten years is twenty bushels; thirty-five bushels have frequently been gathered from one acre. The crop has never been lost in the remembrance of the oldest citizen. 1866 will produce not less than 200,000 bushels. Corn averages forty bushels per acre; oats, forty bushels; barley and buckwheat, twenty-five bushels; potatoes, from fifty to four hundred bushels. Hemp grows from ten to fifteen feet high. The best chewing tobacco in the world is grown in Greene county; 1,200 pounds per acre of fine tobacco is an average crop, and 150,000 pounds will be raised this year. There is no valid reason or objection to this county as a stock-raising county. Old, life-long flock masters say that Southwest Missouri is superior to any part of the continent for sheep raising. Already, since Missouri is free, large flocks are being introduced into the county. There has been no feeding of stock of any kind yet (Dec. 14th). Flocks are grazing and keep filled on the wild grasses. There will be no feeding of sheep till snow falls. There is no disease or sickness among sheep. Timothy grass averages two tons per acre. Clover and blue grass are not cared for to a great extent. Stock of all kinds is very much needed, there being but few brood mares, or any cattle, except sheep. This is the country for raising fine horses and mules. Immigrants would do well to bring stock horses and cattle. It is so well known to the country that this latitude surpasses all others for fruits, that it need only be remarked that there are many very fine nurseries in the county, and every farmer has

more or less orchard, which has never been known to fail. Apples are kept any month in the year. Several vineyards are in course of construction, and bid fair to be a success. Springfield, the county town, has now a population of about 3,000. Several academies and public schools, and all denominations of religionists have good, large, and commodious church buildings. There are forty or fifty business houses, doing a business of half a million annually. Brick manufacturers and mechanics will, without fail, have a fine field next year for their professions. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad survey runs now to the northern limits of the city. In the county there are fifty-one schools, with an aggregate of 2,700 scholars. There are two well-conducted, orderly colored schools, which are largely attended by old and young, and are encouraged and appreciated by all of our citizens. There are twenty post offices in the county; daily, tri-weekly and weekly mails, to all points. The land office is re-established here and doing a handsome business. The climate is mild and gentle. The average depth of water in the month of January is less than two inches. There are few snows; no heavy winds or storms have been experienced for a number of years. Perfect peace and quiet throughout the county. The people of Southwest Missouri are now and ever will be a loyal, radical, and progressive element in Missouri politics.

HENRY COUNTY

Is separated from the Kansas line by Benton and Cass counties, and has an area of 720 square miles. The face of the country is rolling, and is principally prairie, but with sufficient timber along the numerous streams. The soil is very productive. Tebo and Grand rivers, with their tributaries, afford an abundance of water. Stone for build-

ing purposes is plenty. Coal is found in all parts of the county. Clinton, the county seat, is pleasantly located and prosperous. The Fort Scott and Sedalia Railroad is located through the county. To all enterprising men, Henry county offers comfortable and pleasant homes, and wealth and prosperity. In politics the people are intensely loyal.

HICKORY COUNTY

Has an area of 284 square miles, and is situated in the northeast of what is generally called Southwest Missouri. The country is principally undulating and hilly, but the soil is fertile. About one-third of the county is prairie, the remainder timbered. All kinds of grain and fruit do well in the prairies and bottoms. Fine indications of lead, iron, and oil abound. The county is well watered by the Nian-gua and Pomme de Terre, which run through it from south to north, affording an abundance of water power. A small amount of government land is yet unentered. Hermitage is the county seat.

JASPER COUNTY.

BY HON. JOHN M. RICHARDSON.

This county lies on the western boundary of the State, and forty miles north of the Arkansas line. It is twenty-one miles north and south, and thirty-two east and west, containing 672 square miles, and 450,560 acres of land. The county may be considered with regard to its *agricultural capacity*, its *mineral wealth*, and *water power*. Its topography is moderately undulating, sufficiently so to drain the surface well. There are no high, precipitous hills or flat morasses. At the commencement of the rebellion, this county was rich in live stock, such as horses, mules, cattle, hogs, and sheep. Its population consisted

of about one thousand families—its people were prosperous and happy. The civil war desolated the county. At the end of the rebellion, there remained only about forty families. Houses and farms were mostly burned. Carthage, the county seat, was entirely destroyed. Peace being restored, the county is fast filling up with an active, energetic, and moral population. During the war, a hundred thousand Northern soldiers marched over its beautiful prairies; they were pleased with its fine soil and mild climate, and a great many of these men are now purchasing homes for themselves and families in this county. At this time seventy families are living in tents around Carthage waiting for lumber with which to build houses. The lead field of the Southwest crops out in the southwest part of this county. It is here that the indications are strongest of immense deposits of lead in Southwest Missouri. The mine belonging to the heirs of James' estate, on Centre Creek, is considered by good judges to be the best lead mine in the State. It, however, has not yet been fully tested by mining operations. Geology justifies the belief that the southwest part of the county is rich in mineral wealth. The soil of the county is of three qualities—the black, coarse-grained limestone land; the red or mulatto limestone land, and the black, coarse-grained land in the sandy formation, overlying a portion of the great Missouri coal field in the northwest part of the county. The south half of the county is the black, coarse-grained limestone soil. It is very rich, and produces on an average from 40 to 55 bushels of corn to the acre; from 20 to 30 bushels of wheat and rye, and 30 bushels of oats. The soil of the sandy formation is about the same as to strength as the black, coarse-grained limestone. The north and northeast part of the county is of the red or mulatto limestone. This is the best wheat land in the United States—it has produced, with good cultivation, 40 bushels of wheat to the

acre, weighing 66 pounds to the measured bushel. The soil of the county is well adapted to the raising of timothy and Hungarian grass for hay, and blue grass for summer and winter pasture. The blue grass grows about three feet long, forming a thick mat on the ground, and, if not pastured in summer, makes a splendid winter pasture. The county produces the best of fruit, such as apples, peaches, quinces, apricots, pears, plums, etc., etc. The apple is a sure and profitable crop. There are in the county several apple orchards that are not surpassed by any in the United States for yield and quality. The quality and flavor of the apples and peaches produced in this county last season were superior to any the writer could find in the New York, Philadelphia, or Washington City markets. In addition to the fruits mentioned, the smaller varieties are cultivated with great profit, such as the currant, gooseberry, raspberry, and blackberry. The wild strawberry, of remarkable size and fine flavor, grows in profusion, but has not been cultivated. There is a small belt of land south of Spring river, upon which the native grape grows nearly as large as the cultivated grape at Hermann or Cincinnati, and the flavor of which is as good as the cultivated grape of either of those places. The soil of this county is from two to five feet thick, having a sub-soil of clay, intermixed with gravel. In the north and northeast part of the county, there is, several feet under the surface, a bed of clay, which, if thrown up and exposed to the frosts of a couple of winters, makes a first-rate fertilizer for the soil. It is an excellent manure. The county is well watered, having a great many springs of pure, fresh, limestone water. There are several large streams; Spring river and Turkey creek run through the county from east to west. There are also the Big and Little North Forks, Dry Fork, White Oak, Jones', Centre, Turkey, and Short creeks. All these streams furnish fine water power. Spring river, at Car-

thage, is 90 feet wide, and 30 inches deep, running with a velocity of a foot to the second. There is a good water power for every two miles of this river. Centre creek, though not so large, is a fine stream for machinery.

Ten years will make this the richest county in agricultural and manufacturing wealth. It has the soil upon which to grow the cotton, hemp, and wool, and the water power to manufacture it into fabrics. The streams are skirted with good timber, such as oak, walnut, hickory and cherry. The northwest portion of the county is underlaid by a part of the great Missouri coal field, which crosses the county from northeast to southwest; under that part of the county are three beds or layers of the finest cannel coal in the West. Along each of the streams are bottoms of rich, alluvial soil, varying in width from one-fourth to three-fourths of a mile. The bottoms of Spring river and Centre creek are from one-half to three-quarters of a mile wide; they are very rich, and, with good cultivation, produce one hundred bushels of corn to the acre. The county is well watered, the soil is rich, the climate mild, and the country healthy. There is timber sufficient to answer all necessary purposes. Previous to the rebellion a farmer, without slaves or hired help, calculated to support his family off his little farm, and sell every fall five head of mules or horses for from \$600 to \$800. That was a good income on the labor of one man, particularly as he did not labor more than four hours a day on an average the year round. The county at this time has four good steam saw mills, and five grist and flouring mills. The towns are Carthage, Medoc, Preston, Avilla, Fidelity, and Sarcoxie—all good business points, surrounded by good neighborhoods. Land in this county has continued to rise gradually from the close of the rebellion; it rates at this time from \$3 to \$25 per acre. Unimproved prairie lands sell at from \$3 to \$10 per acre, owing to the loca-

tion. Jasper is a desirable county for residence; it is recommended by its *soil, water, health, and mildness of climate*. It is the climate which so materially aids the farmer. There is not a dram shop in the county; the people prefer schools; the public school fund is about one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

LACLEDE COUNTY

Has an area of 476 square miles, was formed from a part of Pulaski county in 1849, and named after the honored founder of St. Louis. The face of the country is generally rolling and hilly, with occasional level prairies. The soil is productive, and all kinds of grain and fruit grow to perfection. The county is well watered by fine springs, and the Gasconade river runs through a large portion of it. Good building stone is plenty. Iron, lead, and copper have been found, and will prove of great value to the county at no distant day. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad will traverse it, and is now being rapidly built. The population is about 5,000. Lebanon, the county town, is in a prosperous condition, and growing rapidly. There are a number of wholesale and retail stores, and a flourishing academy. The *Lebanon Advocate*, a weekly newspaper, worthily represents a loyal and attractive county. There are 100,000 acres of government land yet subject to entry in this county.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Is separated from Arkansas by Barry county, and from Kansas by Jasper and Newton, and contains 404,000 acres. The face of the country is principally rolling, in some places hilly, but well diversified with prairie and timber. The soil and climate is very favorable to mixed farming,

all kinds of grain, fruit, and stock. The valleys are particularly productive, while the high prairies are unsurpassed for grazing. It is bountifully supplied with water by streams which are fed by large and clear springs. In several instances a single spring furnishes available water power. The best of timber is plenty, with a heavy undergrowth of hazel and sumac. Wild fruits of all kinds grow in profusion. Limestone and sandstone of the best quality is abundant. No coal. Iron and lead in small quantities. The location is very healthy. Mt. Vernon, the county seat, has a population of about 1,000, was but little injured during the war, and presents an attractive appearance.

MCDONALD COUNTY

Is located in the southwest corner of the State; is bounded on the south by the Arkansas line, and on the west by the Indian Territory. Its area is 480 square miles. The face of the country is generally rolling and hilly. The valleys are very productive, and yield abundantly to the agriculturist, while the uplands are well timbered, and are good for pastures. The county is well watered by the Elk river, and Big and Little Sugar, Indian and Buffalo creeks, and their tributaries. Several extensive pineries contribute to the wealth of the county. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad has a large amount of good land here. Pineville, the county seat, is situated at the head of Elk river. The population of the county is about 2,000. There are 100,000 acres of government land subject to entry in this county.

NEWTON COUNTY

Joins the Indian Territory on the west, is separated from Arkansas by McDonald county, and contains 650 square miles. The surface is generally undulating, and in some places hilly, with nearly an equal quantity of prairie and

timber. The soil is generally fertile, and all kinds of grain and fruits are produced abundantly. It is well watered by Shoal, Hickory, Cedar, and Buffalo creeks, and their tributaries. On Shoal creek is a great deal of fine water power yet unimproved. Stone for building purposes is plenty. The chief source of wealth of Newton county lies in its mineral deposits. Copper and silver are found in considerable quantities. Of lead, there is great abundance. Moseley's diggings, ten miles northwest from Neosho, the county seat, are very rich with lead and silver. But Granby, in the eastern part of the county, is the principal mineral point of Southwest Missouri. Extensive mines, employing 300 miners, are being successfully worked. Granby is a flourishing town, has the finest hotel west of St. Louis, "The Blow House;" and the Granby Mining Company have erected, and now opened, the largest mercantile establishment in this part of the State. Newtonia, five miles east of Granby, is a neat and thriving town. This county is rapidly filling up with an intelligent and industrious people. There are 50,000 acres of government land yet unentered in this county.

OZARK COUNTY

Is situated in the southeastern part of the State, on the Arkansas line. It is very well watered, and its streams afford excellent water power. The surface of the country is very much broken, and in some portions mountainous. Most of the county is covered with fine timber, chiefly oak, hickory, and yellow pine. Pine timber is its principal commodity. Farming is carried on to limited extent, but pays well. Its mineral resources are undoubtedly great. There are twelve mills in the county. Game of all kinds is abundant. Gainesville is the county seat. There are 300,000 acres of government land in this county, subject to entry at \$1.25 per acre.

POLK COUNTY

Has an area of 576 square miles. The surface is generally undulating, in some places hilly, with about an equal quantity of prairie and timber. The Pomme de Terre river and its tributary creeks drain the eastern part of the county, while the Sac and its tributaries water the western. Good springs are numerous and clear. The uplands consist chiefly of limestone soil, which produces fruits, wheat, rye, oats, barley, etc., abundantly, while the valleys of the streams consist of alluvial soil of remarkable fertility. Timber, of all the varieties found in Southwest Missouri, is plenty. Limestone, sandstone, and cotton rock, for building purposes, is found in large quantities. Lead has been found in the northeastern part of the county. Bolivar, the county seat, has a population of 700; is a thriving town, and supports a weekly newspaper, *The Bolivar Sentinel*. Population of the county, 6,500. They claim to have 44 school houses and 20 churches in the county, which speaks well for the morals and intelligence of the inhabitants.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Is situated in the northwest of what is generally termed Southwest Missouri, and is separated from the Kansas line by Bates and Vernon counties. The face of the country is undulating, and well diversified with prairie and timber. The soil is generally fertile and well adapted to all the purposes of the farmer or stock grower. Iron ore is found in this county, and there are promising indications of lead, coal and oil. The Osage river traverses the county from southwest to northeast, and, with tributary rivers and creeks, furnishes plenty of excellent water. Osceola, the county seat, is situated near the center of the county, on the Osage river, which is navigable up to

this point during the greater part of the year. This is a flourishing town, and supports a number of wholesale houses, and an enterprising and loyal newspaper—*The Osceola Herald*. No county in the Southwest has a more enterprising population, or can offer greater inducements to the immigrant.

STONE COUNTY.

Borders on the Arkansas line, and has an area of about 400 square miles. The surface is generally broken, and in some places mountainous. Timber covers about three-fourths of the county, and consists chiefly of oak, hickory, pine, and cedar. The pineries are large and of fine quality. The bottoms of the numerous streams are very productive. White river, with its many branches, furnishes excellent water in abundance, and numerous mill sites. indications of lead and iron are frequent and promising. No mines yet opened. Galena, the county seat, is situated on White river. There are yet remaining 200,000 acres of government land in the county.

TANEY COUNTY.

Is situated on the Arkansas line. The face of the country is broken and hilly, and the soil better adapted to stock raising and fruit culture than to ordinary farming. The greater part of the county is covered with forests of oak, hickory, and pine of great size. It is excellently watered by White river and its numerous tributary creeks, which also furnish fine water power for all manufacturing purposes. But the chief source of prosperity to Taney county lies in its minerals. Iron, copper, zinc, lead, and other minerals, are found in large quantities. Lead is especially abundant, and diggings pay from the surface.

Recent discoveries along Swan creek have revealed new "leads," which are astonishingly rich. In one well authenticated instance, two men, with an old axe and a sharp stick as mining tools, dug fourteen hundred pounds of the best quality of lead ore in one day! Little, if any, systematic mining has been heretofore attempted, but now preparations are being made by responsible companies to develop this great source of wealth. There are 200,000 acres of government land subject to entry. Forsythe, the county seat, is situated on White river.

VERNON COUNTY

Is situated in the northwest corner of Southwest Missouri, bordering on the Kansas line. The face of the country is gently undulating, the greater part consisting of prairie, with a sufficient amount of timber interspersed. Good water is abundantly supplied by numerous streams. The soil is rich and very inviting to the farmer and stock-grower. The greater part of the county is underlaid by the best of coal, and there are strong indications of petroleum. Vernon county suffered severely during the war; but since peace has returned, is being rapidly filled up by an intelligent and industrious class of settlers. Nevada City, the county seat, is a flourishing and attractive town.

WEBSTER COUNTY

Is situated in the eastern part of Southwest Missouri, and has an area of about 550 square miles. The face of the country is principally rolling and hilly. The valleys and part of the uplands are fertile, and yield large crops of corn, wheat, tobacco, etc. More attention has been paid to stock raising than to any other branch of farming, and has been very profitable. All kinds of fruits grow to per-

fection. Plenty of timber, principally oak and hickory. Building stone is abundant. Iron, copper, and lead have been found. A recent discovery of lead on Panther creek is said to be very rich. Water is plenty. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad crosses this county, and owns a large amount of the best farming and mineral land in the county. Marshfield is the county seat, and is pleasantly located. The *Marshfield Yeoman*, a weekly newspaper, is a credit to the town and county. There are yet 100,000 acres of government lands for entry.

WRIGHT COUNTY

Is situated in the eastern part of Southwest Missouri, and is one of the highest counties of the Ozark range. The surface is hilly, and in places mountainous. The valleys of the streams, which afford the country a plentiful supply of water, are rich and productive. The hills are adapted to grazing, and generally covered with a fine growth of timber, chiefly oak and pine. Stone, for building, is found in abundance. Iron, lead, and copper exist in the county, but no mining has yet been attempted. Hartville, the county seat, is situated on Wood's Fork of the Gasconade river, and is steadily recovering from the effects of the late war. 200,000 acres of land are yet subject to entry.

TABLE

Exhibiting the Population in 1860, the amount of Unentered Government Land, and the Minerals existing in each County in the State.

COUNTIES.	WHITE POPULATION.	UNENTERED LANDS.	MINERALS.
	1860.	ACRES.	
ADAIR	7,890	.....	•
ANDREW	11,011	.....
ATCHISON	4,404	.....
AUDRAIN	6,569	.....
BARRY	7,761	300,000	Lead.
BARTON	1,816	.....	Coal.
BATES	6,787	.....	Coal.
BENTON	8,528	50,000	Copper and Lead.
BOLLINGER	5,958	.....	Kaolin, Pipe Clay, Fire Clay.
BOONE	14,494	.....
BUCHANAN	21,918	.....
BUTLER	2,125	.....	Iron.
CALDWELL	4,931	.....
CALLAWAY	13,135	.....	Coal, Marble.
CAMDEN	4,631	200,000	Big Cave, Lead, Iron.
CAPE GIRARDEAU ..	12,734	.....	Marble.
CARROLL	8,757	.....	Lead, Coal, Mounds, Oil Springs.
CARTER	1,062	.....	Iron, Copper.
CASS	8,851	.....	Oil Spring, Coal.
CEDAR	6,441	20,000	Coal.
CHARITON	9,851	.....	Coal.
CHRISTIAN	5,325	50,000	Iron, Lead, Copper.
CLARKE	9,318	.....	Coal.
CLAY	9,587	.....
CLINTON	6,704	.....
COLE	8,724	.....	Lead, Coal.
COOPER	13,591	.....	Iron, Coal, Lead, Chouteau Springs.
CRAWFORD	5,650	80,000	Iron, Lead, Copper, Coal.
DADE	6,735	30,000	Iron, Copper, Coal.
DALLAS	5,800	100,000	Copper.
DAVISS	9,248	.....
DE KALB	5,101	.....
DENT	5,542	.....	Copper, Iron, Mounds.
DOUGLAS	2,459	300,000	Lead.
DUNKLIN	4,535	.....
FRANKLIN	16,478	14,000	Iron, Lead, Copper, Alabaster.
GASCONADE	8,456	6,000	Saltpetre Caves.
GENTRY	11,922	.....	Copper, Coal.
GREENE	11,568	30,000	Iron, Lead, Copper, Caves.
GRUNDY	7,909	.....
HARRISON	10,621	.....
HENRY	8,620	4,560	Iron, Coal.
HICKORY	4,618	50,000	Iron, Lead.
HOLT	6,281	.....
HOWARD	10,120	.....	Lead, Coal.
HOWELL	3,200	.....
IRON	5,433	.....	{ Iron, Lead, Gold, Marble, Kaolin, { Platina, Nickel, Granite, Emery.
JACKSON	19,166	.....	Lead, Zinc.
JASPER	6,507	.....	Iron, Lead, Copper, White Sand.
JEFFERSON	8,861	.....	Coal, Manganese.
JOHNSON	13,080	.....
KNOX	1,553	.....	Iron, Lead, Bryce's Spring.
LACLEDE	4,861	100,000	
LAFAYETTE	13,762	.....	Iron, Lead, Copper, Coal.

COUNTIES.	WHITE POPULATION.	UNENTERED LANDS.	MINERALS.
	1860.	ACRES.	
LAWRENCE.....	8,772	75,000	Coal.
LEWIS.....	10,419	.....	.....
LINCOLN.....	11,362	.....	Coal.
LINN.....	8,555	1,480	Coal.
LIVINGSTON.....	6,833	.....	Copper, Coal.
MACON.....	14,710	7,000	.....
MADISON.....	5,338	.....	{ Iron, Lead, Copper, Zinc, Gold, { Silver, Tin, Nickel.
MARIES.....	15,782	27,000	Iron, Lead, Copper.
MARION.....	4,875	.....	Coal, Pipe Clay, Fire Clay.
MCDONALD.....	3,976	200,000	Lead, Caves.
MERCER.....	9,286	.....	(Reported) Coal, Iron, and Copper.
MILLER.....	6,076	75,000	Lead, Iron, Coal.
MISSISSIPPI.....	3,762	.....	.....
MONITEAU.....	10,202	.....	Lead, Coal, Iron.
MONROE.....	11,865	.....	Coal.
MONTGOMERY.....	7,363	.....	Lead.
MORGAN.....	7,624	.....	Lead, Coal, Caves.
NEW MADRID.....	3,886	.....	.....
NEWTON.....	8,904	50,000	Lead, Zinc.
NODAWAY.....	5,136	.....	.....
OREGON.....	3,428	.....	Lead, Copper.
OSAGE.....	7,650	.....	Iron, Lead.
OZARK.....	4,834	300,000	.....
PEMISCOT.....	2,919	.....	.....
PERRY.....	9,266	.....	Iron, Lead.
PETTIS.....	7,516	.....	Lead, Iron, Coal.
PHELPS.....	5,097	20,000	Iron, Lead, Copper.
PIKE.....	14,165	.....	Coal.
PLATTE.....	15,119	.....	.....
POLK.....	10,030	57,000	Iron, Zinc.
PULASKI.....	3,835	195,000	Iron, Saltpetre, Caves.
PUTNAM.....	9,209	.....	Coal.
RALLS.....	6,154	.....	Saline Springs.
RANDOLPH.....	8,838	.....	.....
RAY.....	12,050	.....	Petroleum, Coal.
REYNOLDS.....	3,266	.....	Iron.
RIPLEY.....	3,618	.....	Iron, Lead, Copper.
ST. CHARLES.....	14,370	.....	Coal, Oil Springs.
ST. CLAIR.....	6,256	10,000	Iron, Coal.
ST. FRANCOIS.....	7,549	.....	Iron Mountain, Lead.
STE. GENEVIEVE.....	7,199	.....	Lead.
ST. LOUIS.....	182,857	.....	Coal, Marble.
SALINE.....	10,120	.....	Saline Springs, Lead.
SCHUYLER.....	6,882	.....	Coal.
SCOTLAND.....	9,170	.....	.....
SCOTT.....	4,744	.....	Iron.
SHANNON.....	1,972	.....	Iron, Lead, Copper, Gold.
SHELBY.....	6,942	.....	Coal.
STODDARD.....	7,942	.....	Iron.
STONE.....	2,333	200,800	Iron, Lead, Oil Springs.
SULLIVAN.....	9,235	.....	.....
TANEY.....	3,540	300,000	Lead, Copper.
TEXAS.....	6,071	100,000	.....
VERNON.....	4,920	.....	.....
WARREN.....	7,782	.....	.....
WASHINGTON.....	8,034	.....	{ Lead, Copper, Silver, Zinc, Cobalt, { Alabaster.
WAYNE.....	5,086	.....	.....
WEBSTER.....	6,880	100,000	Iron, Lead,
WORTH.....	New.	.....	Coal.
WRIGHT.....	4,440	200,000	Lead.

RAILWAY DISTANCES.

Below will be found tables of distances on all the Railways in operation in the State :

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD OF MISSOURI.

Stations.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
St. Louis, Seventh street.....		Gasconade	88
“ Fourteenth street....		Chamois.....	100
Cheltenham	5	St. Aubert	105
Laclede	8	L'Ours Creek.....	109
Webster.....	10	Bonnot's Mill.....	112
Kirkwood	13	Osage	117
Barrett's	16	Jefferson City.....	125
Meramec	19	Scott	132
Gravel Switch.....	22	Lookout.....	140
St. Paul.....	24	California.....	150
Gravel Switch.....	25	Tipton.....	163
Glencoe	26	Syracuse.....	168
Waldstein Switch.....	28	Otterville	176
Eureka	30	Smithville.....	181½
Allenton	32	Sedalia.....	189
Dozier Switch.....	34	Dresden.....	196
Franklin	37	Knobnoster	208
Gray's Summit.....	41	Warrensburgh	218
Labadie	44	Holden.....	233
South Point.....	52	Krigsville	237
Washington	54	Pleasant Hill.....	249
Newport	62	Lee's Summit.....	261
Miller's Landing.....	67	Independence.....	274
Berger	75	Kansas City.....	283
Hermann.....	81		

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Stations.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
Franklin		Harrison	45½
Catawissa	4½	Cuba	53
Calvey	6½	Knobview.....	69½
Moselle.....	11½	St. James	66
St. Clair.....	18	Dillon.....	71
Staunton	28	Rolla	76½
Sullivan.....	33½	Little Piney	88
Bourbon	40		

NORTH MISSOURI RAILROAD.

Miles.	Stations.	Miles.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
	St. Louis.....	304	107	Mexico.....	197
4	Bellefontaine.....	300	121	Centralia.....	183
6	Jennings.....	298	129	Sturgeon.....	175
9	Ferguson.....	295	139	Renick.....	165
11	Graham.....	293	146	Allen.....	158
13	Bridgton.....	291	157	Jacksonville.....	147
16	Section 16.....	288	168	Hudson.....	136
19	Ferry Landing.....	285	173	Bevier.....	131
20	St. Charles.....	284	177	Callao.....	127
29	Dardenne.....	275	192	Bucklin.....	112
33	O'Fallon.....	271	198	St. Catharine.....	106
37	Perruque.....	267	202	Brookfield.....	102
42	Wentzville.....	262	207	Laclede.....	97
48	Millville.....	256	228	Chillicothe.....	76
51	Wright's.....	253	233	Utica.....	71
57	Warrenton.....	247		Breckenridge.....	
67	Jonesburg.....	237	254	Hamilton.....	50
72	High Hill.....	232	269	Cameron.....	35
76	Florence.....	228	275	Osborn.....	29
81	Montgomery.....	223	283	Stewartsville.....	21
89	Wellsburg.....	215	292	Easton.....	12
94	Martinsburg.....	210	304	St. Joseph.....	
100	Jeffstown.....	204			

IRON MOUNTAIN RAILWAY.

Miles.	Stations.	Miles.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
	St. Louis.....	86	35	Hematite.....	51
1	Lami street.....	85	39	Victoria.....	47
6	Carondelet.....	80	42	De Soto.....	44
8	Ivory's.....	78	47	Tunnel.....	39
10	Jefferson Barracks.....	77	50	Blackwell's.....	36
14	Grimsley's.....	72	57	Cadet.....	29
18	Jefferson.....	68	61	Mineral Point.....	25
21	Kimmswick.....	65	65	Hopewell.....	21
21	Windsor Harbor.....	65	69	Irondale.....	17
23	Sulphur Springs.....	63	74	Blairsville.....	12
26	Illinois.....	60	81	Iron Mountain.....	6
27	Peevly.....	59	83	Middle Brook.....	3
30	Porines.....	56	86	Pilot Knob.....	

CAIRO AND FULTON RAILROAD.

Miles.	Stations.	Miles.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
0	Cairo.....	37	20	Scoville.....	17
1	Bird's Point, Mo.....	36	24	Vannoy.....	13
4	Atcher's.....	33	26	Sikestown.....	11
6	Harrison's.....	31	31	Hamilton.....	6
8	Fish Lake.....	29	33	Little River.....	4
13	Charleston.....	24	37	Burlington.....	0
18	Bertrand.....	19			

HANNIBAL AND ST. JOSEPH RAILROAD.

Miles.	Stations.	Miles.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
	Hannibal.....	206	100	St. Catharine.....	106
10	Barkley.....	196	104	Brookfield.....	102
14	Palmyra.....	192	109	Laclede.....	97
30	Monroe.....	176	130	Chillicothe.....	76
37	Hunnewell.....	169	135	Utica.....	71
47	Shelbina.....	159	145	Breckenridge.....	61
59	Clarence.....	147	156	Hamilton.....	50
67	Carbon.....	139	171	Cameron.....	35
70	Hudson.....	135	177	Osborn.....	29
75	Bevier.....	131	185	Stewartsville.....	21
79	Callao.....	127	194	Easton.....	12
94	Backlin.....	112	206	St. Joseph.....	

The Platte County Railroad is in operation from St. Joseph through Halls, Rushville, Winthrop, Sugar Creek, Atchison, Iatan, to Weston. Distance, 37 miles.

DISTANCE FROM ST. LOUIS TO SIOUX CITY BY RIVER.

Stations.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
Mouth Missouri River.....	20	Providence.....	2
Bellevue Bend.....	5	Mount Vernon.....	5
Charbonier.....	10	Rocheport.....	8
St. Charles.....	10	Boonville.....	12
Howard Bend.....	12	Mouth Lamine.....	8
Howell's Ferry.....	5	Arrow Rock.....	8
Dozier's.....	5	Little Arrow Rock.....	7
Tavern Rock.....	2	Bluff Port.....	6
St. Albans.....	1	Glasgow.....	4
Murdock's Woodyard.....	3	Cambridge.....	9
Augusta.....	3	Keytesville Landing.....	10
Jones Point.....	2	Buckhorn Point.....	8
South Point.....	4	Brunswick.....	8
Washington.....	1	Grand River.....	1
St. John's Island.....	4	Windsor City.....	7
Newport Landing.....	2	Miami.....	7
Heatherley's Woodyard.....	8	Thomas' Woodyard.....	6
Miller's Landing.....	1	Hill's Landing.....	20
Pinkney and Griswold's.....	3	St. Thomas and Waverly.....	5
Bates' Woodyard.....	10	Dover Landing.....	13
Hermann.....	10	Lexington.....	12
Mouth Gasconade.....	8	Farmville Landing.....	1
Monning's Landing.....	2	Wellington.....	7
Portland.....	10	Camden.....	10
Fisher's Woodyard.....	5	Napoleon.....	8
St. Aubert.....	5	Cogswell's Landing.....	5
Mouth Osage.....	13	Sibley.....	5
Mouth Moreau.....	5	Richfield.....	14
Jefferson City.....	5	El Paso Landing.....	8
Claysville.....	7	Liberty.....	7
Marion.....	10	Wayne City.....	7
Eureka Landing.....	5	Randolph.....	8
Martin's Landing.....	2	Kansas.....	6
Nashville.....	7	Kansas River.....	2

Stations.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
Parkville.....	13 472	Nimeha City.....	2 696
Little Platte River.....	1 473	Rockport.....	6 702
Van Rankins.....	16 489	Brownsville.....	2 704
Leavenworth.....	8 497	Sun Island.....	5 709
Platte City Landing.....	3 502	Sonora.....	1 710
Weston.....	4 506	Linden.....	15 725
Kickapoo.....	7 512	Sidney Landing.....	1 726
Atchison.....	20 532	Nebraska City.....	18 734
Columbus Landing.....	6 550	Wyoming.....	11 755
Maysville.....	6 556	Kenosha.....	20 775
Hart's Landing.....	10 566	Rock Bluff.....	10 785
St. Joseph.....	25 581	Bethlehem.....	6 791
Bellemont (Steam Ferry)...	4 585	Plattsmouth.....	1 792
Vonton.....	4 589	La Platte.....	7 799
Savannah Landing.....	10 599	St. Mary's.....	6 805
Sultan.....	3 603	Bellevue.....	6 811
Dallas.....	10 613	Council Bluffs, lower.....	7 818
Lower Oregon.....	12 625	Council Bluffs.....	10 828
Iowa Point.....	7 632	Omaha City.....	2 830
Upper Oregon.....	1 633	Florence.....	10 840
White Cloud.....	10 643	Crescent City.....	10 840
Big Nimeha.....	10 653	De Soto.....	40 880
Rush Bottom.....	10 663	Tekamah.....	35 915
Marietta.....	10 673	Little Sioux.....	10 925
St. Stephens.....	2 675	Decatur.....	35 960
Lowell.....	5 680	Blackbird Hills.....	30 990
Hemmes.....	1 681	Omadi.....	30 1020
San Deroine.....	8 689	Sargent's Bluffs.....	10 1030
Morgan Island.....	5 694	Sioux City.....	20 1050

TABLE OF DISTANCES FROM ST. LOUIS TO NEW
ORLEANS BY THE RIVER.

Stations.	Miles.	Stations.	Miles.
St. Louis to Jefferson Barracks..	12	Memphis.....	447
Herculaneum.....	30	Commerce.....	487
Selma.....	36	Helena.....	532
Ste. Genevieve.....	59	Napoleon.....	642
Kaskaskia Landing.....	65	Gaines' Landing.....	682
Mouth Kaskaskia River.....	80	Columbia.....	702
Chester.....	84	Greenville.....	714
Grand Tower.....	130	Port Worthington.....	744
Bainbridge.....	140	Grand Lake.....	749
Cape Girardeau.....	156	Ashton.....	764
Commerce.....	172	Lake Providence.....	774
Cairo.....	207	Milliken's Bend.....	824
Columbus.....	225	Vicksburg.....	849
Mills' Point.....	240	Grand Gulf.....	899
New Madrid.....	282	Rodney.....	917
Island II.....	287	Natchez.....	977
Needham's Cut-off.....	341	Mouth Red River.....	1037
Plumb Point.....	361	Bayou Sara.....	1077
Fulton.....	371	Baton Rouge.....	1112
Mouth of Hatchie.....	377	Plaquemine.....	1137
Randolph.....	382	New Orleans.....	1247

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF KANSAS.

Kansas is bounded on the north by Nebraska, on the east by Missouri, on the south by the Indian Territory, and on the west by Colorado. The State has an area of 41,580 square miles, or 26,611,200 acres of land, to the first guide meridian west. It has forty-five counties already organized, and considerable territory yet to be laid off as soon as the population justifies it. The topography is somewhat varied, yet beautiful, there being no very high hills or extended ridges, or mountains. Through the northeastern portion of the State there is a constant chain of small ridges running along the Missouri river from Wyandotte to White Cloud, in Brown county; and as the traveler goes westward, the hills diminish in size until the whole face of the country becomes gently undulating. Farther south in the State, we find in the eastern counties mounds or ridges, until south of Fort Scott, when they gradually disappear, and the surface of the country is gently rolling.

The State is entirely devoid of swamps and marshes, consequently it is all tillable land, adapted to raising all kinds of grain, and for the rearing of stock.

TIMBER.

Along the Missouri river and its tributaries timber is plentiful, principally of oak, cottonwood, walnut, and elm. Back from the river, in the northern tier of counties, it becomes scarce, except on the many small streams that course through the country. On the Kansas, Osage, and Neosho rivers, and their numerous tributaries, plenty of

timber of good quality, such as oak, walnut, and cottonwood, is to be found. The timber on Spring river and Cow creek, in southern Kansas, is of the first and finest quality.

SOIL.

The soil in the northern counties is black, coarse, limestone soil, and produces most excellent crops. Through the center of the State it is black lime, mixed with sand, and is also good. While further south the soil is not so dark, but more of the red or mulatto soil, so famous throughout the southwest portion of Missouri. On the river and creek bottoms it is a black, sandy soil. The red or mulatto soil produces the best wheat west of the Mississippi river.

The three different kinds of soil mentioned constitute the principal soils throughout the State. No one will ever object to Kansas on account of soils, for it is rich in every part of the State, and corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, and all kinds of grain and vegetables do well. There is not a section of land in the State that is not adapted to farming purposes. And along the Kansas river especially the country is most desirable, it having a railroad running from Wyandotte, on the Missouri river, to Saline in the west, and with a road from Leavenworth intersecting the the main branch of the Pacific Road at Lawrence. The Union Pacific Railway Company has over one million acres of choice farming lands for sale, at prices varying from one dollar to twenty dollars per acre.

MINERALS.

Kansas abounds in minerals of all kinds. Building stone, of sand and lime, is found in quarries in almost every county in the State, and can be used for building purposes, or for fencing, at a very small expense. We noticed in our travels through the State that the eastern

settlers know how to use this stone to an economical advantage. Coal is plentiful throughout the center and southern counties, and oil is being discovered in a few places. Salt wells are operated in Miami county, and are yielding a good profit. There is but little known as yet of the mineral wealth of Kansas. Professor Swallow is now making out the geological survey of the State. Ores of all kinds are thought to be scarce. A very valuable marble quarry, called "Black Egyptian Marble," is found at Fort Scott, in Bourbon county, and they have a factory there, where they are testing its quality with very satisfactory results.

WATER.

The principal river is the Kansas, or Kaw, and its tributaries; and from the 97 meridian westward, the Arkansas flows about a degree north of the southern boundary. The general direction of this latter river is from west to east. Its principal tributaries within Kansas are the Neosho, Verdigris, and Little Arkansas, all large streams.

The Kansas river falls into the Missouri at Wyandotte, and with its numerous affluents, drains a vast surface. Its length is about 600 miles. The Osage, another large stream, drains the country between the Kansas and Arkansas rivers. It has many considerable branches, which drain a rich and well timbered section. It flows through the whole length of the Sac and Fox Indian Reservations, the lands of which are celebrated for the richness of their soil.

GOVERNMENT LANDS.

The government yet owns land in almost every county in the State, and millions of acres in the State are yet lying vacant, to be homesteaded at \$16 for 160 acres, or subject to entry at \$1 25 per acre. The land that is still open to entry is as fertile as any that is in cultivation. See Homestead Law in another part of this publication.

COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES.

There is 275 miles of railroad completed and in running order, comprising the Missouri River Railroad, a portion of the Atchison and Pike's Peak, Leavenworth and Lawrence, and the Union Pacific. The latter is now being constructed at the rate of 200 miles per annum. The most important railroads projected are the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Galveston, Kansas and Neosho Valley Road, Union Pacific South Branch, Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe.

The government has endowed these roads liberally with lands. In addition to these, there is the Platte Country Railroad. The Missouri river also affords a highway for commerce. The advantages of Kansas are far superior to those of Ohio and Indiana in the early days in a commercial point of view, which will brighten the home of the industrious immigrant as he settles within her limits.

SCHOOLS.

Schools are conducted in this State on the broad, liberal, free school system, similar to the school law of Ohio and Indiana, and are in a prosperous condition throughout the settled portion of the State. The Normal School at Emporia, Lyon county, is a flourishing institution of learning for the purpose of educating young ladies and gentlemen for teaching. There are several academies and seminaries throughout the State—one at Lecompton, one at Lawrence, one at Leavenworth, one at Ottumwa, and a commercial college at Topeka.

CHURCHES.

The different sects are fully represented in the different parts of the State, and are all in a flourishing condition.

TWO YEARS' TRAVEL

AND

RESIDENCE IN MISSOURI AND KANSAS.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY—A NIGHT AT WEST QUINCY—A HAPPY COUPLE—RAILROAD ADVENTURE, THE IRON HORSE GIVES OUT, BUSHWHACKERS—ARRIVAL AT MACON—DRY JOKES—ST. JOSEPH, ITS PROSPERITY—WESTON—STEAMER EMILY—ARRIVAL AT LEAVENWORTH.

The traveler in foreign lands has unquestionably a more conspicuous and attractive field than the home tourist. The more remote the field, the more perilous the adventures encountered in passing over it, the more fascinating the traveler's story. While polar zones, Northern Africa, Central Africa, and unknown localities generally have the preference with the reading public, it is nevertheless true that much valuable information may be gleaned in fields nearer home. These nearer fields have, beside, a greater and prior claim upon the seeker of knowledge. His education, in this respect, should commence at home. A knowledge of his own country, its climate, resources, physical features, population, customs, laws, etc., should be an essential and indispensable part of his course of study. It is not so. We not unfrequently meet with persons who know more about Madagascar and Kamtschatka than they do of their own land. A learned pundit, who prided himself on knowing the exact height of Chimborazo, and the number of islands in the Grecian Archipelago, was utterly discomfited by the question as to

the whereabouts of "Bear Grass." He knew the outline of foreign shores, was familiar with outlandish names and places, but of "Bear Grass," a stream that flowed not a score of miles from his own home, he had never heard. We are happy in knowing that of late years more attention is being given to the geography of our own country. We believe that the time is coming when our best scholars will consider first in their list of accomplishments a thorough knowledge of the land in which they live. Thoreau thought Walden Pond and its neighborhood a universe in itself, and cared to go no farther. We may find in the limits of a neighborhood, or State, a realm more fruitful to the student in quest of knowledge, than the kingdoms of Greece and Rome. It is better, after all, to know something of "Bear Grass," to know a little even of our limited home-world, than a great deal about the uttermost parts of the earth. With these views I make no apology for presenting my readers with a few incidents and items of travel through the States of Missouri and Kansas, a region that the professional tourist has passed over and over again without mention.

Early in the year 1865 I entered the State of Missouri, crossing the Mississippi at Quincy by a ferry which connects the eastern and western portions of the Great Western Railroad. We landed at West Quincy late in the evening, and, as there were no trains going west, were obliged to remain till next day at a hotel of somewhat primitive construction. Of its three rooms, one was used as a kitchen, storeroom and bedroom, another as a dining-room, barroom and bedroom, and the remaining one as a parlor and bedroom, for the special use of travelers. Into this ten or twelve ladies and gentlemen, including a bride and groom, were crowded. Who ever traveled by rail car or steamer any great distance without meeting at least one happy couple just wedded, fond, shy, embarrassed,

yet striving to appear self-possessed and unconscious of the scrutiny of their fellow travelers? Such are almost invariably the objects of friendly interest. They have the tender sympathies of the benedicts, who recall memories of their own silver honeymoon, bright and beautiful, notwithstanding the golden days that have followed. They are to the bachelors pleasant reminders of a path they themselves shall one day tread, when each one shall have singled out, and wooed, and won the fairest, truest and most beautiful of womankind. There are, however, many disadvantages in being newly married, and not among the least of these the limited accommodations of this hotel, at which our bridal party stood aghast. The other travelers resigned themselves with philosophical composure to circumstances, and even enjoyed the novelty of this experience of western life. The bridal party, through the kindness of the landlord, were accommodated with lodgings at a private house. The rest remained to enjoy their crowded and uncomfortable position, and to turn their misfortunes into a jest. The "*muchness*" of the thing, as Artemus says, amused them. As a result, the ice of reserve was broken, and they, who a few hours before were strangers, suddenly became well acquainted, and enjoyed each others' society. Travelers may journey side by side for days and scarce exchange a word, while an untoward accident, or adverse experience like this, will establish sympathy at once. Sidney Smith says that he was traveling in an omnibus with strangers, but when the omnibus overturned he "*found them all out*," a witticism doubly true.

With the return of morning we prepared to resume our journey, but failed to get our trunks across the river till late in the day. At last we were ready and started on our westward way. We passed over a fine farming country, supped at Palmyra, a fine looking town, and thence onward at the rate of about ten miles an hour. The trip

was rendered attractive by a spice of danger. The war, which in the Southern States had already assumed gigantic proportions, was carried on in Missouri in a desultory manner by organized bands of bushwhackers, who prowled about in quest of plunder, stopping railroad trains, robbing and sometimes killing the passengers. In view of these depredations the travelers had armed themselves, each with a navy revolver or two, and were prepared for any emergency. In addition to these perils from freebooters, the road was so rough as to be dangerous, the railroad company not being able in the unsettled condition of the country to make the necessary repairs. We passed wrecks of cars every few miles. At the bridges blockhouses had been erected and guards stationed, whose business it was to protect the trains and keep the bushwhackers from burning the bridges. Our progress was slow, and soon became perceptibly slower. The "iron horse" began to show unmistakable signs of fatigue, and at a distance of twenty miles from Palmyra was completely exhausted and stopped. The perils of the position were sufficiently obvious. It was night, we were in a dangerous locality, and knew not how soon the enemy might be upon us. At this moment we most desired to be flying over the prairie, but instead we were becalmed, as it were, for an uncertain time in a locality that we could not regard as either pleasant or safe. What of man's works is more helpless than a railroad train attached to a refractory engine? A man was sent forward with a lantern to the next station a few miles ahead, who telegraphed to Hannibal for another engine, which in the course of a few hours, seeming very long to us, arrived and relieved us from our real or seeming perils. Once more gliding over the rails in safety we despised the dangers we had feared before, and even,

"Alas for the rarity
Of Christian charity,"

insinuated that our ferocious brakemen were more to be feared than any bushwhackers whatever. Another danger was perhaps overlooked, that of dying of old age before the train should reach its destination. We were sanguine and cheerful, notwithstanding the long, sleepless night passed in "waiting for the wagon." The newly married couple bore themselves heroically, cheering each other from time to time with words of comfort and assurance. The scene was truly affecting. Long after sunrise we arrived at Macon City, where the hungry ones of our sleepless crowd breakfasted. Here we saw a company of Illinois soldiers guarding a few prisoners, clad in Confederate gray suits, and looking woebegone. Macon City is a handsome, thriving place, and the point where North Missouri Railroad intersects the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad. The country that we passed through abounds in oak openings, or barrens, and has not the appearance of richness or fertility. We, nevertheless, passed through some fine villages, and noticed some fine farms, principally along the water-courses. Breakfast over, the cry of "all aboard" from the conductor saluted our ears. Some of the boys in blue suggested a "rail" instead of a "board," a good suggestion for those traveling in muddy times in an old-fashioned stage coach, and considering the condition of our railroad, not altogether inappropriate to us. We were often obliged to move slowly and cautiously over broken or defective rails. Saxe's railroad song could scarcely apply to our train, unless perversely parodied, and made to read:

"Crawling o'er the meadows,
Creeping like a snail,
Bless me this is tedious,
Riding on a rail."

As we proceeded westward the country became more and more attractive till we reached a point about forty

miles east of St. Joseph, where it presents an exceedingly inviting appearance. The soil was a dark, rich loam. Noble forest trees skirted the streams. There seemed about equal proportions of prairie and timber land. The pleasing landscape inspired our company with new life and cheerfulness. We reached St. Joseph at five o'clock p. m., and were greeted at once with a deafening clamor from hackmen and hotel runners. The confusion and uproar were quite city-like. Trunks were treated by baggage masters with their accustomed disrespect. Some were thrown or slammed so violently as to be burst open, greatly to the wrath of the helpless owners, who swore great oaths like "our army in Flanders," as their treasures were thus ruthlessly exposed to the gaze of a promiscuous rabble. I escaped from this hurly burly as best I could, and taking as deliberate a survey as possible of the various representatives of the hotel world of St. Joseph, selected the most plausible looking scamp among them, and gave myself and baggage unresistingly into his hands. The hotel was crowded. Six of us were assigned to one room, but this was decidedly better than our accommodations at West Quincy. The landlord was obliging, the fare was excellent, and we considered ourselves fortunate and happy.

St. Joseph, even at this season of the year, and this stage of the war, was enjoying a high degree of prosperity. Trade was brisk, the hotels were crowded to their utmost capacity, and the railroad was scarce equal to the demands upon it for transportation of freight. The Missouri river was open, and steamboats were briskly transporting freight from St. Louis to all points above. St. Joseph contained at this time about 20,000 inhabitants, and was rapidly improving. It is now, and will continue to be, a place of great importance.

After a brief rest in this attractive place I resumed

my journey, on the Platte Country Railroad. At an early hour of a very pleasant day we took our leave of St. Joseph. Our route lay along the eastern shore of the Missouri river. Richer bottom lands and finer farms than are found along this road, I have seldom or never seen. We arrived in due time at Weston, then the terminus of our railroad, a small village, seven or eight miles north of Leavenworth City, noted for picturesque hills surrounding it, its conspicuous bridges over deep ravines, and its no less conspicuous beer saloons. Here we were met by the nice little steamer Emily, and her nice clerk appropriately yclept Nicely, a name descriptive of the manner in which things were managed on this model boat. An hour's ride over the beautiful Missouri brought us to Leavenworth.

CHAPTER II.

LEAVENWORTH, ITS SITUATION, COMMERCE, POPULATION, SIGNS OF PROSPERITY, THE FORT, PILOT KNOB CEMETERY—A JOURNEY BY STAGE COACH—A RICH COUNTRY—TOPEKA, DESCRIPTION—MODERN PIONEERS—"THE UNIVERSAL YANKEE"—TECUMSEH, A CITY OF THE PAST—LAWRENCE, ITS HISTORY, QUANTRELL'S RAID, PRESENT PROSPERITY.

This city is situated on the west bank of the Missouri river, two miles south of Fort Leavenworth, and thirty-five miles north of Kansas City. It is the principal business city west of St. Louis, and the population, which in 1855 was 1,500, is now about 25,000. The Missouri flows by with a swift and deep current, but good landing facilities are afforded by a natural levee of rock. The surrounding country is sufficiently elevated to render it healthy, and sufficiently broken and uneven to give it a picturesque appearance. A large business in manufac-

turing wagons for emigrants about to cross the plains, is carried on here. In 1865 nearly 5,000 wagons were laden at this point for New Mexico, Denver, and Salt Lake City. Goods were reshipped from Fort Leavenworth to the various forts and military stations on the plains westward.

The city of Leavenworth is very handsomely laid out, and contains many fine as well as substantial brick buildings. The citizens are principally eastern men, and are noted for their intelligence, enterprise, and public spirit. Loafers and idlers of every class are held at a discount among them. We were fortunate in making the acquaintance of some genial and noble hearted men during our brief sojourn in this city. Four daily and five or six weekly newspapers are published here. These papers are ably conducted, and a sufficient indication of the intelligence and enterprise of the people may be found in their well-filled columns. We believe that in all essential particulars Leavenworth will compare favorably with any city of its size in the Union.

After visiting the Fort, the Government Farm of 2,000 acres, and the Government Hill, as it is called, we paid a visit to Pilot Knob, on which the Cemetery is located, and from this point obtained a beautiful view of the city and surrounding country. The Cemetery, of course, is wanting in many of the features which add a solemn interest to the burying places of older cities. There are no old tombs or mouldering, time-worn monuments. "The rude forefathers of the hamlet" have not yet found a grave, or if they have, it is not here. There are comparatively few dwellers in this "silent city." As yet, Leavenworth is in its youth and prime, and is, *par excellence*, a city of the living.

From Leavenworth we went to Topeka, the capital of the State. Our conveyance was a lumbering stage coach, a vehicle fast becoming obsolete in eastern localities, and

used here only for a time. The doom of the stage coaches has already been pronounced. They are driven westward with the red man, and like him, are doomed to ultimate extinction. Our route lay over Government Hill, by Easton, Winchester, Osawkee, Florence, and Wyoma. The scenery along the route was attractive, the soil appeared to be rich; there was abundance of limestone in ledges, suitable for building purposes, but there appeared every where to be a scarcity of timber. We noted many brick and stone houses, the latter being the first seen since leaving the Eastern States. It was late in the evening when we arrived at the Kansas river ferry, two miles east of Topeka. After a little delay at the crossing, we were driven in to Topeka, and set down at the door of the Chase Hotel. After our weary ride, we were glad at the prospect of resting in a place so pleasant as this seemed to be. We were agreeably surprised to find in the capital so many evidences of intelligence, enterprise, and refinement.

Topeka is situated in the midst of a rich agricultural district, on the Southern bank of Kansas river, and eighty miles west of Kansas City. It has a population of 4,000, and a fair proportion of churches, schools, etc. Topeka, like Leavenworth, has been settled and built principally by Eastern men. With this class of pioneers, no town or village is planned or built in which the church and school house do not form leading features. The men of this class are not in reality pioneers of civilization, inasmuch as they carry their civilization with them. The true pioneers were men of a different type; men who hated cities and settlements, who loved solitude, who lived in huts and cabins, and fought single-handed against savage men and savage beasts. Boone and Kenton were examples of such. The modern pioneers are more gregarious in their habits. They love the hum of crowded streets, the excitement of trade; they take kindly to patent labor-saving machines,

and delight in speculation. They are skilled in the construction of paper towns and air-line railroads. They have a keen scent for oil wells and coal beds, and have a happy knack of making the most out of the least favorable surroundings. These men find out at once the aptitudes of soil, climate, surface, and locality, and farm, manufacture, herd cattle, or engage in traffic accordingly. These are the men who are to make the desert to rejoice, and the wilderness to blossom as the rose. Topeka has its share of them. They are not saints, nor yet sinners above all men, but simply active, restless, go-ahead-ative men, who have set out to lay the foundations of empire, and thoroughly believe that they are the men to do the work. Success to them. Future generations, perhaps, will appreciate their labors.

The Santa Fe route, by way of Fort Riley, passes through Topeka. The daily stage coaches on this line appear always crowded. After a brief stay in this city, I set out by stage coach conveyance for Lawrence, Douglas county. The country passed on this route consists mostly of rolling prairies. There are many well improved farms, and substantial brick or stone buildings. Tecumseh, the former capital, in which the pro-slavery Legislature met to plot against freedom and right, seemed an exception to the general prosperity of the country through which we passed. We could not but note and reflect upon its sorry appearance. Whatever glory it may once have had has all departed. Even the old State House was being demolished, and its bricks removed to Topeka. The town was dead as the institution in whose interest it was originally planned and built. We may say of it, as has been said of so many cities ruined and half-forgotten, *it has been. Tecumseh was.* We pass from Tecumseh to Lawrence—from a dead to a living city. Lawrence the ill-fated when Tecumseh was in its prime, but to-day the happy and

prosperous. No western town has a sadder, bloodier history than Lawrence. The loyal inhabitants had suffered again and again from fire and sword. Outrage after outrage was perpetrated upon its liberty-loving citizens, and yet it survived. As I looked upon the now thriving city, I noticed some vestiges or traces of Quantrell's raid, and recalled the tragic history of the dark days, happily passed forever. How impossible it is that wrong should ever permanently triumph. Truth has a native vigor that defies the oppressor and wrong doer. As the poet says :

"The eternal years of God are her's."

I recalled the words of the old song, sung years before the "irrepressible conflict" became a desolating war. They contain a prophecy that is to-day verified :

"The type that in the river lay—
Thrown there for serving freedom—
Washed clear and bright, shall come to light
Some day, when truth shall need them."

So bright are the uses of adversity. Apparent disaster is after awhile victory. Water can not quench a living truth, and fires can not consume it. Lovejoy's type click in a thousand offices consecrated to freedom, and cities laid waste by the torch rise from their ashes, to be again a home for civilization and refinement.

The citizens of Lawrence are a liberal minded, liberty loving people. Their city wears a prosperous look, and has nearly or quite recovered from the damage inflicted upon it during the war. The buildings are neat in appearance, and built generally of brick or stone. There are, of course, good school houses and churches. Among the latter we may particularly mention the Methodist church, a handsome brick structure, and that of the Unitarians, built of stone, and ornamented with a town clock. This church is free to most of the denominations, and is often

used as a lecture room by the Progressive Friends. Three railroads add to the commercial importance of Lawrence. The surrounding country is well adapted to farming purposes ; and timber, which in other parts of the State is not plentiful, here is found in abundance.

SOUTHWESTERN KANSAS.

CHAPTER III.

BALDWIN CITY—PRAIRIE CITY—OTTAWA—OHIO CITY—GARRETT—
LEROY—BURLINGTON—OTTUMWA—HARTFORD—NEOSHIO RAPIDS—
QUAKER SETTLEMENT—EMPORIA—STATE NORMAL SCHOOL—COUN-
CIL GROVE—FORT RILEY—INDIANS—PACIFIC RAILROAD LANDS—
COAL MINES—TOPEKA.

After spending a few days and forming a few agreeable acquaintances in Lawrence, I purchased a horse and buggy, and in company with a friend set out to visit the southwestern part of Kansas. Although it was the first of April when we started, we found the roads very good, and the new mode of traveling decidedly preferable to the old, and more enjoyable. The traveler in a stage coach is virtually a prisoner. The movements are regulated by the whim of the driver ; in his own conveyance he has a sense of freedom, which adds very essentially to the pleasure of traveling. Baldwin City, the first point of importance on our route, is a pleasant little village. Most western cities are villages. They are called cities by way of compliment, or possibly in a prophetic spirit, the name being a prophecy of future importance. The traveler cannot but notice in western towns and villages a peculiarity that may be termed *hub-ism*. Every considerable place is certain to be located in a central position. The Bostonians do not more pertinaciously believe in their city as the hub of the universe

than do these western city builders in their own favored town sites. These claims are not made without much show of reason, and at this early date it would be hard to predict as to what city should be the favored one in the contest for precedence.

Baldwin City is at present an unassuming village of perhaps four hundred inhabitants. There is here a prosperous college, under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Prairie City, also a village, is located about two miles west of Baldwin City, contains about two hundred inhabitants, and has an excellent school house. The soil in this part of Douglas county is very rich, but timber is not abundant. We pass next to Ottawa, on the Osage river, the county seat of Franklin county. At the time of our visit, the town, which had only been planned a year before, was being rapidly built up. Indications of thrift and enterprise were every where apparent. Eighteen miles further south we find Ohio City, the former county town. There were only a few houses here, and but one well, and that containing but little water, not enough to supply our wearied and jaded horse. The surrounding country looks well, but there is here the generally prevailing scarcity of timber. Garnet, the county seat of Anderson county, through which we next passed, is a small village, yet handsome in appearance. At Humboldt, the county seat of Allen county, located on the banks of the Neosho, we found abundance of water and timber. We found here indications of coming spring. The grass was already green, and this was in the early part of April. The timber in the river bottoms was principally oak, walnut, cottonwood, hickory, and ash, and was of very luxuriant growth. Our next halt was made at Leroy, a small town in Coffee county, northwest of Humboldt. At Burlington, the county seat of the same county, we made several agreeable acquaintances, among

them Mr. Proutley, the able editor of the *Burlington News*. Burlington is situated on the left bank of the Neosho river, and contains a population of about one thousand, a woolen factory, saw and grist mill, etc. The surrounding country is well supplied with water and timber. Ottumwa, also in Coffee county, is a beautiful village on the eastern bank of the Neosho river, and reminded us of "the city set upon a hill, which can not be hid." From the high mound on which it is located may be obtained a fine view of the surrounding country. A large brick school building has been built here by the Christian denomination. In the vicinity may be found abundance of timber, and occasional ledges of building stone. The farms which dot the country at short intervals are well improved. Passing through a small village called Hartford, we next visited Neosho Rapids, a village near the border of Lyon county, in a well timbered region. There is here a large merchant's flouring mill. The Neosho valley is well settled with an industrious, enterprising people, and is well adapted for farming and stock raising purposes. A short distance above the village is the junction of the two Cottonwood creeks, which thence become Neosho river. We continued our journey in the direction of Emporia, the county seat of Lyon county. Within five miles of the town, we passed through a beautiful farming district, the neat houses and well cultivated farms reminding us strongly of some flourishing Quaker settlements that are found in Ohio and Indiana. The dress of the people, and their peculiar use of the pronoun "thee," verified our conjectures. They were Quakers from Indiana and Ohio. It is a noticeable fact that this peculiar and really sagacious people invariably select the best and most fertile lands for their settlements. The presence of Quakers is consequently a sufficient evidence of the richness and fertility of the localities in which they are found.

Emporia is situated between the two Cottonwood creeks, about a mile from each. The State Normal School is located here, and is said to be in a prosperous condition. We shall remember Emporia with pleasure from the very agreeable acquaintances formed here. Judges Watson and Hunt are specially remembered.

We next passed through Council Grove, a fair little place, and then stopped at Fort Riley on the Kansas river, and now an important point on the Union Pacific Railroad. The country around it is very productive. Junction City, a few miles west of Fort Riley, bids fair to be an important point for trading, as it is likely that all the goods for the Santa Fe and New Mexico trade will be shipped to this point. Our next stopping place was Manhattan, a few miles northeast of Fort Riley, and also on the Pacific Railroad. All the land thus far traveled over had been of good quality, fertile, and well suited for farms and stock raising. The principal and only drawback complained of by the farmers, was the summer droughts, which recurred generally on alternate years, according to popular report. The two last years have, however, proved exceptions, there being plenty of rain, and excellent crops. This and other circumstances, leads many to suppose the dry season to be exceptional, rather than the fixed rule. We believe that the average of the crops will prove quite equal to those of other States. The grass always does well.

While going through Council Grove, Fort Riley, Manhattan, and other places, we met and conversed with Indians of various tribes living in the State of Kansas. All were friendly, and some quite intelligent. Those in this State are all friendly and civilized. From Manhattan we passed down the Kansas river, stopping at the various towns on the way, which though as yet small, have the natural elements of improvement, and at no distant day

will become thriving and prosperous places. The Union Pacific Railroad owns large tracts of the public lands lying along the river, as well as some of the richest localities in Kansas.

While mentioning the deficiency of wood in some parts of the State, we omitted noting the existence of coal mines in various localities. There are occasional indications of oil. Oak, walnut, and cottonwood timber abounds in the valley of the Kansas.

Continuing our journey, we passed through the pleasant town of Topeka, making, however, but a brief stay. We passed many beautiful farms. In fact the valley of the Kansas abounds in such.

CHAPTER IV.

AT LAWRENCE—NEWS OF LEE'S SURRENDER—PUBLIC REJOICING—THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN—SUDDEN REVULSION OF FEELING—THE GRIEF OF A NATION—FROM LAWRENCE TO LEAVENWORTH—DELAWARE RESERVE—INDIAN TRIBES—EFFECT OF CIVILIZATION—SANTA FE TRAINS—ATCHISON—AN INDIAN PREACHER, HIS THEORY CONCERNING THE FAILURE OF MISSIONARIES—ATCHISON COUNTY—JACKSON COUNTY—TOPEKA—BURLINGAME—RIDGEWAY—TWIN MOUNDS—CLINTON—J. A. BEAM—BLOOMINGTON—OSAGE HEDGES—DAIRIES.

We arrived at Lawrence just as the citizens had received the intelligence of the evacuation of Richmond by Lee. At this news the courage of the weak and doubting revived, and they began at last openly to express hope for the Union. The news of the surrender of Lee, on the following day, was too good to be true; but when Gen. Grant's official report arrived, all classes gave way to one common outburst of joy and congratulation. Banners were unfurled to the breeze from many a flag staff, and were sus-

pended by ropes stretched across the principal streets. All seemed to partake of the general joy.

Lawrence had suffered as no other northern city had. At one time it had been burned to ashes, and the citizens murdered, unarmed and in cold blood, by a band of guerillas, while those capable of defending its hearths and homes were absent doing service in the armies of freedom. These were to return. The days of pillage and slaughter were over, and there was to be no more war. To the citizens of Lawrence the change was almost millennial, and they rejoiced as only a rescued people can rejoice. The waving of banners, the firing of guns, and the ringing of bells, formed the outward expression of a joy too deep for words or symbols. A happy people thronged the streets, among them many contrabands—contrabands no longer—who had fled during the war from the border counties of Missouri, and now were rejoicing in true camp meeting style, shouting, weeping for joy, and praising God. The scene was indescribable. To the poor slave, who had spent almost a life time in bondage, and who now knew that he was free, it was truly a blessed day. His grotesque expressions were not unnatural or extravagant. “Bress de Lord!” “Bress Massa Lincoln—Gen. Grant—General Sherman! Bress every body!” were common exclamations.

“The year of Jubilee had come.”

Ere the people had concluded their manifestations of joy which the last message from Washington had called forth, came the terrible news of the assassination of President Lincoln at Wood’s Theatre. Men turned pale at the tidings; houses were darkened; public and other buildings draped in mourning; and the sounds of lamentation were heard. Perhaps in the annals of history there has been no such sudden revulsion from joy to grief, as on this memorable day. The same scene of gladness turned

suddenly to grief was witnessed in every city, town, and hamlet of the loyal portion of the country. Yet here, in Kansas, as the rejoicing was proportionately greater, so was the sorrow deeper than that which found expression elsewhere. Here as elsewhere, the grief was limited to no party or clan. All united in a spontaneous tribute to the illustrious dead. At the news of the ghastly wound inflicted by the assassin upon the Chief Magistrate of the nation did bleeding Kansas bleed afresh. The people of no other State mourned more deeply the death of Lincoln than those of Kansas; and it may be safely asserted that no other State is more true to the principles for which that well beloved man became a martyr. Kansas is to-day, and ever shall be, sacred to Freedom.

The reader will excuse the digression prompted by the joyful and sad events that followed each other so closely. Once more to the prosaic task of describing localities, of noting the peculiarities of soil and surface, and of marking the changes and improvements that have passed and are passing over this new land.

The country between Lawrence and Leavenworth was formerly known as the Delaware Reserve, and is now owned principally by the Union Pacific Railroad Company. It presents an agreeable variety of prairie and timber lands; and has some fine streams of water, and occasional ledges of good building stones. Portions of two Indian tribes still remain on Kansas river, near Wyandotte and Kansas City. They are of the Delaware and Shawnee tribes. They have among them some very good schools, and have attained a very creditable degree of civilization. There are nearly as many Indians seen in the streets of Kansas City, Wyandotte, Lawrence, and Leavenworth, as negroes. As a people, the red men are fading away, and must soon be no longer a distinct race; we have nevertheless many examples that tend to show

that, with the proper care and culture, they may become civilized and useful members of society. The descendants of such may, with our people, inherit the broad acres that once were known as the happy hunting grounds of Nature's most untutored children. Civilization is offered them with its attendant blessings. They may accept it and live; or reject it and be swept away as leaves before the blast. It is a sad fact that a vast majority accept only the vices of civilization, its idle habits, its gaming, its libertinism, its bad whisky, and then perish as surely as the leaves fall in autumn.

The old reservation here is certainly a fine tract of country, and may well excite the covetousness of the "pale faces," who are just now possessing themselves of the goodly land. The distance from Lawrence to Leavenworth is thirty-five miles by the wagon road, and proved rather a pleasant drive. We passed many well cultivated farms, and encountered an occasional prairie schooner, or large covered wagon, used in crossing the plains. The Mexicans were at this time coming in with their long trains. Some of their wagons were drawn by as many as ten yoke of oxen, a small caravan in themselves. These wagons passed in a continuous stream, one disappearing as another came in sight. There was no part of the road in which one or more of them could not be seen. Passing from Leavenworth to Atchison, we found the country more hilly than usual. There was very little timber; the road was rough and stony, and the general appearance of the landscape less inviting. The city of Atchison itself was not more prepossessing than the country crossed in reaching it. Atchison is nevertheless a brisk, thriving place, is well situated for commerce, has a railroad running through it, and extending for a considerable distance west. While at Atchison, I had the somewhat rare privilege of hearing an Indian preach. The sermon, which

was preached in the Episcopal Church, was singular, and in many respects memorable. The preacher, who had been educated in the northeastern part of Indiana, and was acting as a missionary to his people in Kansas, discussed missionary matters in a very original and pertinent manner, but advancing many odd and apparently skeptical ideas. He asserted, for instance, in attempting to account for the failure of the white missionaries to his race, that they committed the mistake of trying to enforce a belief in the historical parts of the Old Testament, rather than the first principles of Christianity, the law of Love, and the way to do right. The Indians, he asserted, never could or would believe the miraculous stories of the creation, the deluge, the confusion of tongues, the crossing of the Red Sea, etc., etc.; and they would put no faith in any one who asserted their truth. They must first, he urged, be taught to know the difference between good and evil, right and wrong. They must be taught to shun the white man's fire water, and to trust in the white man's God, who is the Great Spirit of spirits, and Life of all life. Many, without sharing the preacher's skepticism, will cordially concede the point that the first instruction of a religious nature to a savage and uncultivated mind should be an appeal to the conscience rather than an attempt to teach history. It is true that the history has an important bearing on the principles taught, but still, it is an adjunct and not an essential to salvation. That the missionaries have not been more successful in their labors among the Indian tribes may be attributed in part to errors in teaching, but it is doubtless owing in a still greater degree to the failure of the whites, as a race, to make their own practice accord with the principles they teach. The whites offer them at once the Bible and a cup of fire-water. They give them a law and gospel which they themselves set at

defiance, and the result is what might be expected—the poor Indian becomes badly demoralized.

From the preacher and his text we pass to more appropriate themes. We left Atchison for Topeka after a short stay. What we saw of Atchison county differed not much from the country between Atchison and Leavenworth. The soil was good enough for farming purposes, but timber was scarce. There was, however, plenty of building stone. There were several well improved farms, belonging to people from the eastern and northern States. We passed next into Jackson county, and were much pleased with the appearance of the country. The people complain of their bleak wintry winds. In this county are promising indications of coal. The immigration is from the eastern States.

From Holton, the county seat of Jackson county, we re-visited Topeka, passing again over the rich, beautiful bottom lands already described. We then passed southward by Auburn and Burlingame in Osage county. In this county are some excellent lands and fine streams of water; but the prairies are high and extensive, and the country, especially in the southern part, thinly settled. From thence we traveled towards Lawrence, passing through Versailles, Ridgeway, and Twin Mounds. Ridgeway is appropriately named. Twin Mounds is so named from two large elevations, each covering an area of one hundred acres, and standing very nearly together. There are at this place a hotel, postoffice, and grist mill. There are indications of coal here. The site is a beautiful one, commanding as it does an extensive and pleasing view of the surrounding country. The next place of note on this road is Clinton, distant twelve miles from Lawrence. This village is the home of J. A. Beam, the communist reformer and philanthropist. He is doubtless a good man, and he has certainly made great sacrifices in behalf of his

principles. His aim has been to establish a society or community on the plan advocated by the Apostles, "where all things shall be held as common property." Whatever may have been appropriate in the apostolic ages, it is certain that in these modern days what is known as communism is not likely to obtain any great favor among men. One mile east of Clinton is the pleasant little town of Bloomington. In the immediate neighborhood, there is plenty of timber and water. Further on, towards Lawrence, timber is more scarce, but stone is plentiful, and is used by the farmers in building fences. I noted on this road some beautiful Osage hedges. These grow well in all parts of the State. Dairies are, here and elsewhere in the State, kept to advantage. Mrs. —, an eastern lady residing near Burlingame, Osage county, made, from the milk of twenty-two cows, about 40 pounds of cheese per day. This she did for two summers, adding to the profits the value of twenty-two calves, which she raised each season. She received at the end of three months about \$800 for the cheese alone, and estimating the calves at the close of the year as worth \$10 apiece, we have a total profit of \$1020 per annum. With the assistance of her two daughters, and hired help, she carried on her farm so as to add very materially to her gains from the dairy. Few men are to be found who could carry on the affairs of a farm and dairy as successfully as does this enterprising lady. There is quite a demand here for dairy products, as Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico, derive their supplies principally from this region.

CHAPTER V.

AN EXPEDITION TO THE CHEROKEE NEUTRAL LANDS, THE OUTFIT, OBJECT—J. A. BEAM AND HIS THEORIES—CONSTITUTION OF THE PROGRESSIVE FRATERNITY—THE RENDEZVOUS AT LAWRENCE—THE FIRST NIGHT IN CAMP—PRAIRIE CITY—STANTON—OSAGE RIVER—THE DOCTOR'S ADVENTURE—MIAMI COUNTY—TWIN SPRINGS—LINN COUNTY—PARIS—MONEKA—MOUND CITY—FORT LINCOLN—FORT SCOTT.

A trip to southeastern Kansas, southwestern Missouri, and the Cherokee Neutral lands, will richly repay the tourist. Having heard so much of this admirable country, a company numbering eight persons, including the writer, set out on a pilgrimage, or rather expedition, to satisfy their curiosity with regard to this land of promise. As the country had been the scene of many a bloody foray, and was even then infested with bushwhackers, we found it necessary to go armed, and so provided ourselves with a formidable array of guns and revolvers. We took with us a carriage, wagon, three saddle horses, and a liberal supply of blankets, provisions, etc. As we were all of the temperance reform school, the latter did not include the usual supply of alcohol, to enliven our parting or cheer us on our way. We had in our party E. B. Sawyer and his wife, and the reformer, A. J. Beam, and his wife. The object of the reformer was to find a well watered and timbered tract of land, in some healthy locality, where he could establish a community, and carry out his long cherished idea of communism. The presence in our company of this noted man, will justify a more extended reference to his principles, and the fundamental features of the association which he proposed to establish. He takes, as the basis of his reform, the Apostolic idea of community of goods and interests, which he deems essential to equality of condition and happiness. Article second, of what may be considered as the constitution of the association, reads

as follows: "The fundamental principle of this society shall be that of fraternity; each for all, and all for each; and from each according to his ability, and to each according to his wants." The person becoming a member of this society, puts into the common fund, all his property, whether it be much or little, and thenceforward shares equally in labor and its rewards with the poorest. He does not receive more for having contributed much; he only receives in proportion to his wants and necessities. The man able to work ten hours per day shares equally with the man who can work but five; the man with ten children receives enough to supply his wants; the man with one or none receives according to his necessities. The principle of fraternity requires that all should share alike. Friend Beam advocates free schools, free churches, and universal freedom. He contends that the law of love is the only true law by which the world can be redeemed. His principles are noble, too noble for this hard and selfish age, and few can be found willing to give themselves for the universal good. It is thought best in the imperfect state of society to have laws regulating the acquisition and tenure of property, under which one man may grow enormously rich and another abjectly poor, and the many are made to subserve the interests of the few. Communism supposes men to be purer, better, and less selfish than they are, and too much ignores the force or law necessary to control evil men, because it ignores too much the evil in man. We concede its adaptation to a perfect state of society, but "the good time coming" is yet, we fear, far distant. Nature has given us, in this western land, many of the physical conditions of a second Eden; broad and fertile plains, luxuriant forests, crystal streams, mild climate, and serene skies,

"And only man is vile."

We append, as not altogether out of place in this con-

nection, a synopsis of the articles governing this association :

CONSTITUTION OF THE PROGRESSIVE FRATERNITY.

We, the undersigned, believing the present form of society to be imperfect, and to have a tendency to make men selfish ; and desiring to establish a more comfortable and harmonious home, where we can act upon the principle of fraternal love ; where there will be no rich and no poor, but all stand upon the basis of equality ; where we can have better advantages for the cultivation of our moral, intellectual, and social natures, do hereby agree to establish the following Constitution for our government :

ART. 1. The name of this society shall be THE PROGRESSIVE FRATERNITY, as expressive of our desire to progress from ignorance to wisdom, and from selfishness to brotherly love.

ART. 2. The fundamental principle of this society shall be that of fraternity—each for all, and all for each, and from each according to his ability, and to each according to his wants.

ART. 3. The laws and regulations of this society shall be established by the wisdom of the majority of the members of the fraternity.

ART. 4. Members of both sexes shall have the same social, political, and educational privileges, and shall be equal in every particular.

ART. 5. All members will be expected to labor as many hours each day as the wisdom of the society may deem necessary, except Sunday, which shall be devoted to rest, recreation, and improvement.

ART. 6. All members of this society having capital and property must turn it over to the society, for its use, as soon as practicable.

ART. 7. Any member of this society can withdraw at any time, and claim the amount of capital (without interest), furnished by such member, with one-half of the net profits of the society, in proportion to the number of members, and the time said member served the society.

ART. 8. The domain, industrial implements, live stock, and capital of the society, shall be held as common property, and each member will be expected to care for the property as his own.

ART. 9. A President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of five Trustees shall be elected annually.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of the President to make suggestions for the improvement of the society, to see that all members perform their duties faithfully, to report delinquents, preside at all meetings of the society, and preserve order.

ART. 11. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to take care of the

Constitution and books of the society, to record all of its proceedings faithfully, and to attend to the business correspondence of the society.

ART. 12. *Resolved*, That the dual relation of the sexes accords with the law of nature, and leads to harmony and happiness.

ART. 13. The society binds itself to furnish food, shelter, clothing, and educational advantages to all, and each person is bound to operate for the general welfare of the society.

ART. 14. We promise to conduct ourselves in a becoming and appropriate manner; to use no profane or vulgar language; to abstain from the use of intoxicating drink, as a beverage; to live in such a manner as will best conduce to our spiritual development.

ART. 15. This Constitution may be changed or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the society, at a meeting called for the purpose, after which change or amendment any member can leave the society upon the terms herein specified.

ART. 16. All families and single persons shall, as soon as practicable, have separate rooms for their exclusive use.

ART. 17. We agree to do all in our power to exalt and perfect the government in which we live.

ART. 18. The capital of deceased members, dying without will, shall be faithfully transmitted to their legal heirs.

ART. 19. Any vacancy occurring in the offices of this society shall be filled immediately, by an election held for that purpose, after due notice.

The members of the society adopting these articles were not, as has been maliciously asserted, either Mormons or free lovers, but persons of correct morals and unquestioned intelligence, who would compare favorably with the better class of people in any community. This much is due to them and to friend Beam, whose character for truthfulness and benevolence is unimpeachable. His company and conversation added materially to the enjoyment of our social circle. We found in him at once a philosopher and friend.

Our party met at Lawrence to arrange the preliminaries for departure, and as this occupied some time we did not commence our journey till late in the day. We made our first halt at a point twelve miles from Lawrence, and three miles from Baldwin City. We found here no thronged

hotel, and had in fact no roof above us but that grand dome which God has reared over all. There are no arbitrary or class distinctions here. Under the glorious roof-tree of heaven repose together the rich and poor, the prince and peasant, the lofty and the lowly, and side by side they slumber in peace beneath the watchful eye of the Master of life. It is to be hoped that we were duly impressed with the grandeur and dignity of our sleeping apartment. At any rate, with a feeling of real enjoyment we folded our blankets around us and lay down to rest on the sod of the prairie, feeling the same respect for our dewy couch as did the noble Indian chief when pressed to sit upon a chair. "No," said he, looking at the strange piece of furniture, "earth is my mother; I will repose upon her bosom." And we did repose. Sweeter and more refreshing slumbers I have seldom known. We woke in the morning with the dew upon our locks, but refreshed and strengthened. Some of our party were in poor health, but this trip was better than medicine; they grew stronger every day, and ere the journey was over had forgotten their ailments altogether.

After feeding our horses and partaking of a gipsy-like breakfast, we resumed our journey, halting a while at Prairie City, where we met a few friends, and then proceeding in the direction of Stanton on the north side of the Osage river. We passed over high, rolling prairies, and during most of the day kept in sight of the timber on the Osage, or Ossawattomie river, as it is sometimes called. We arrived at last at Stanton, a small village located on a hill. We did not claim the hospitality of its citizens, but found a good camping ground near by, affording certainly more generous accommodations than any hotel in Stanton. We had traveled thirty-two miles, and as a consequence enjoyed our rest. On our way to this place we fell in with a man, who, as he was traveling in the

same direction with us, joined our party for a time, but, riding faster than our horses carried us, finally went ahead, accompanied by a member of our party, a doctor, who promised to rejoin us at night. He did not, however, make his appearance, and we could not conjecture what had become of him. The next morning we passed the town of Ossawatimie, known as the home of John Brown. In this town we found salt wells, from which is manufactured salt of a very good quality. The country surrounding Ossawatimie is fertile. Here we overtook our friend, the doctor, who had fared hardly, and had a doleful story of mishaps to relate. He had attempted to come back to our camp late in the evening, but in crossing the ford of the Osage had missed the landing place, and found himself at large in a brushy bottom, surrounded by such clouds of mosquitoes that, he avers, he could not see the path. His horse was tired, and night coming on he had no resource but to remain there, and concluded to spend the night sitting on a log and fighting mosquitoes. How bravely he fought, how heroically he suffered will never be known; but he doubtless struggled manfully with fate, and would have held out till morning, but while fighting against fearful odds he heard somewhere in the distance the faint tinkling of a cow bell. Never did sweeter or more welcome music fall upon his ear. He followed the sound, and found a path which led to a fence, and following the fence he found a school house, where he bivouacked for the night, finding in the walls of the school house a partial protection from the mosquitoes. His horse fared sumptuously on some corn gathered from the field of which the fence was the boundary. We sympathized, of course, with the doctor in his misfortunes, but were none the less amused at his adventures. He slept on a bench, and his dreams were a mere repetition of his adventures. In his slumbers he fought his battles over

and over again. He has since entertained a very strong prejudice against mosquitoes, and thinks he would rather fight bushwhackers, for these when vanquished become quiet, but no amount of killing can subjugate a crowd of hungry mosquitoes.

We were now in Miami county, of which Peola is the county seat. The land is good and timber abundant. This county is crossed by the Osage river. We passed next to Twin Springs, crossing some high stretches of prairie land, and passing by some rugged limestone bluffs. Twin Springs is a handsome place, and has some fine large springs of water, beautifully clear. We passed thence to Linn county, seeing nothing on our way worthy of special note. Before arriving at Paris, we crossed the Big Sugar river. Near this river, and in the valley, there is plenty of timber, but none on the hills. Paris is a small town, situated on a high prairie, and commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. There are some fine farms adjacent, and stone coal is found here.

We came next to Moneka, a pretty little village situated in a good country. Two miles south of Moneka is Mound City, on Little Sugar river. This is a thriving town, with a steam mill and several stores, and good farms in the vicinity. It is twenty-six miles north of Fort Scott. Our next point was Fort Lincoln, in Bourbon county, on Little Osage river. The county is very inviting, and has plenty of coal and building stone, but timber is not plentiful. Twelve miles farther on we reached Fort Scott, on the Maraminta river, a town containing from four to five hundred inhabitants, and which has been much improved since the war. There are here good hotels, stores, mills, and factories, built of stone or brick. It has the appearance of a brisk and prosperous place. We here renewed our stock of provisions. Four miles south of Fort Scott, on the north line of the Cherokee neutral lands, we saw hills

which imbedded coal of a very fine quality. The residents of Fort Scott have used it for a number of years. It is hauled to Lawrence, Leavenworth, and neighboring cities, to be used in smithing, as it is very free from sulphur, and commands a very high price. The demand for it is great, but the supply seems inexhaustible.

CHAPTER VI.

THE MISSOURI BORDER—JASPER COUNTY—A DEPOPULATED REGION—RIPE FRUITS—PURE WATER—RICH SOIL—CAMP ON SPRING RIVER—NATURAL VINEYARDS—DESERTED HOMES—CAMP ON SHOAL CREEK—REDING'S MILL—GRAND FALLS ON SHOAL CREEK—BEAUTIFUL SCENERY—CHEROKEE FARM—A CHEROKEE—GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTRY—RETURN—COW CREEK—DELAYED BY HIGH WATER—RETURN TO FORT SCOTT—AGAIN AT LAWRENCE.

Passing from Fort Scott in a southwardly direction, in about eight miles we crossed the boundary line between Missouri and Kansas. Here, on Little and Big Drywood creeks, is abundance of timber. There are here signs of improvement, among them a saw mill and grist mill, which are sure indications of growth in a new country. We crossed over the eastern portion of Vernon and Barton counties, a beautiful section of country, rich in coal and stone.

We saw, within forty miles of Fort Scott, nothing worthy of special note in the large prairies over which we passed, save an occasional herd of deer, or solitary wolf, skulking at a safe distance, and apparently noting our movements and progress. This was in September. The war had closed, but emigration had not begun to pour in as rapidly as it now does, and we were impressed with the thought that the greatness and true wealth of this country was in the future. It has, in all probability, treasures that

we know not of. At the branches of North Spring river, we were delighted to see pure water flowing over a pebbly channel, than which there are few things more beautiful in nature. We passed some farms and orchards on Buck creek, in the northern part of Jasper county. The fences had been burned down, as we supposed, by the prairie fires, but the apple trees were unharmed, and were burdened with apples, large and ripe, which we appreciated highly, coming as we did from a region as yet almost devoid of fruit. In the timber we found abundance of the wild summer grape, just beginning to ripen. We passed on over a beautiful slope of country, and crossed the South Fork of Spring river about fifteen miles east of the State line, and six miles west of Carthage. We crossed at Langle's Ford, and camped near a splendid apple orchard, and found beside, in the river bottom near by, plenty of grapes. Some of our company had provided themselves with fruit cans; while the ladies busied themselves in preserving and canning fruits, the superfluous members of the camp were equally busy strolling about the surrounding country, and admiring its beautiful scenery. Especially were we delighted with Spring river, the waters of which excelled in purity and transparency those of any other stream that I had ever seen. In the vicinity of our camp were to be seen plenty of deer and wild turkeys. We left this camp with regret, and passed in a southward direction, crossing Centre creek and Turkey creek, beautiful streams of pure running water. We passed many farms with fine orchards of both peach and apple trees, heavily laden with ripe fruit. We helped ourselves liberally to this fruit without any compunctions of conscience, for the farm houses were all deserted, and there was nobody in all the land to dispute our claim. These deserted homes were a sad and melancholy spectacle. This region had been a paradise; it was not even now a wild. Besides the

domestic fruit, we found many natural vineyards on the woody ridges, full of luscious grapes, and in the bottoms plenty of wild plums. This seemed to all of us, more than any region we had yet passed, "the promised land." Its streams, indeed, flowed not "with milk and honey," but with pure water, which was certainly a treasure of equal value. The ripe fruits upon the trees and vines invited us to pluck and eat, and there were no Canaanites in all the land to molest or make us afraid.

We camped two days upon the banks of Shoal creek, and while there visited the shoals where Reding's mill is located. We found an excellent saw and grist mill, and many good frame houses. The houses were all deserted, and the mill wheels were idle and useless. There was the same old music of running water, the same sunshine fell aslant upon beams and rafters through the open windows, but within all was silent. The spiders wove their nets without molestation, and the rats came from their holes unscared. They were the sole proprietors of the place. There are few sights more lonely than a deserted mill. A dwelling is after all made up of idle walls and roof that have only given shelter to human beings; the mill has been an active agent in their welfare, a bread-giver. The deserted house tells a story of a single family scattered and gone; the idle and deserted mill gives evidence of a neighborhood desolated and depopulated. We went from this place to Grand Falls, situated on Shoal creek, in Newton county, fifteen miles west of Neosho, and four miles east of the State line. The farm of Mrs. Scott, at this point, had been desolated, and the dwelling and woolen factory burned by the guerrillas. The falls form a beautiful and picturesque scene. The creek is about two hundred feet in width, and falls on a ledge of rock twelve feet in height, and hurries away through a stony and uneven channel. We camped near this fall one night

and part of a day. It is worth a journey to this fall to enjoy a shower bath under its beaded spray. The banks of this creek have rare beauty and picturesque aspect. The bottoms are full of the most luxuriant vegetation, and I found here the richest and best grapes I ever tasted, growing wild. While encamped here, Mr. Thompson, of Sherwood, came by and stopped with us during the night, and gave us useful directions as to the roads as well as descriptions of the country. Our next stopping place was about eight miles west, on the farm of Mrs. Phillips, a half Cherokee, who had, on account of her Union principles, been compelled to take refuge in Kansas during the war, and had just returned to her old home. She owned a large farm, an excellent orchard, a frame house, and a saw mill on Spring river. This region is included in the Cherokee neutral lands. We remained here several days, during which time, in company with A. J. Beam, I visited Mr. Harland, a Cherokee, who lived on Shoal Creek. Mr. Harland we found to be an intelligent man, and well educated for a backwoodsman. He had been driven from his home during the war, and robbed of most of his property, and, like Mrs. Phillips, had returned to built up the waste places. He received us very cordially, and went with us to the junction of Shoal creek with Spring river, where he showed us some good mill sites. There is much large timber on these streams, and in some places on the uplands may be found a fine growth of black and burr oak, while hickory, walnut, cherry, sycamore, and maple thrive on the bottom lands, growing in some instances to a great size. We were charmed with the richness of soil, the abundance of timber and water, and equally diversified appearance of the Cherokee neutral lands. Mr. Harland gave us the history of the neutral lands, which we omit as possessing no great interest. This is not the Cherokee reservation proper, that being in the Indian Territory,

immediately southwest of Missouri, and south of Kansas. The neutral lands comprise about 1,250 square miles.

We returned from this region on what is called the Fort Gibson, Baxter Spring, and Fort Scott road. We were obliged to go into camp for a day at the crossing of Cow creek, and wait for high waters to subside. This crossing is forty miles south of Fort Scott. The creek is between thirty and forty miles in length, and drains a rich and well timbered portion of the neutral lands. We made the most of our brief stay on its banks, and were almost sorry when the waters fell so that we could cross it and resume our journey. We passed over a large prairie lying between this stream and Cox's creek, but the country about the creek was well timbered. Fourteen miles farther travel brought us to Fort Scott, well satisfied with our delightful trip. Some of the party were so well pleased that they determined to return and spend the winter, and test the climate as well as the fruits of the country. Many of the former inhabitants were returning to the homes from which they had been driven during the war, and they anticipated but little or no trouble from the lawless bands that had heretofore been such a terror. We met many such families on our way to Fort Scott. As for our party, after returning as far as Moneka, we deviated from our original plan, choosing a different route from that first determined upon. Some of us went by Ottawa, Minneola, and Marion to Lawrence, where we all met, and, with a few other citizens, discussed the advantages of the various sections we had passed over, and upon mature reflection concluded to return to the Spring river country, for the purpose of making permanent homes.

CHAPTER VII.

RETURN TO SPRING RIVER—REFUGEES RETURNING HOME—SCARCITY OF HOUSES—CAMP AT THE MOUTH OF CENTRE CREEK—ON SPRING RIVER—BUILDING A CABIN—GATHERING HAY FOR THE WINTER—ABUNDANCE OF GAME—HUNTING ADVENTURES—WILD HOGS—DEER—A DEAD SHOT—THE OSAGE INDIANS AS HUNTERS—A BURNING PRAIRIE—VIVID DESCRIPTION—A HERD OF DEER—WINTER EVENINGS—"THE GOOD TIME COMING."

About the middle of October we began our journey to Spring river, southeastern Kansas, and arrived about the 20th of the same month, after a tedious and wearisome journey. During the two months that had elapsed since our first visit, hundreds of families had returned to rebuild or re-occupy their former homes. Very many found nothing of their former homes left standing but the chimneys; and such were obliged to go into camp until they could provide themselves a permanent shelter. New comers were in the same category. Houses were at a premium, and not to be had at any price. Nine-tenths of the houses in this part of the country had been burned during the war. Our company went into camp at the mouth of Centre creek, on Spring river. As the winter months were close at hand, we went to work with a will, cutting down timber, hewing it, sawing it, and building therewith a shelter from the wintry storms. Right glad were we when the humble structure was completed. It was not a palace, but a home. Its roof kept off the rain; its homely walls shut out the cold winds of the coming winter; the fire blazed cheerily upon its generous hearth. What more did we need? The dweller in marble halls lived not more royally than we. But work was essential. It was also enjoyable. It added muscle to the body, content to the mind; it made our food sweet, and our slumbers sound.

Our party had brought with them a mowing machine, and, though late in the season, proceeded to gather a win-

ter's supply of hay from the prairie, in all about ten tons. Two crops of this hay may be gathered in every year; the first in June or July, the last in October or November. Our own supply of food was of course an important item. The nearest points at which we could obtain provisions were Fort Scott and Mount Vernon; the former, fifty-five miles north of us, the latter nearly as far east. A few staple articles we were obliged to bring from these places, but our supply of meat was cheap, abundant, and close at hand. The woods were full of game and wild hogs. These latter we had the permission of the farmers who were the original, or possibly original owners, to kill. They were usually in good condition, and made excellent food. The game proper consisted of deer, wild turkeys, geese, ducks, etc. As the winter advanced, the wild geese and ducks migrating from the colder regions became more plentiful, and we had more than we needed. Although others participated occasionally in the hunting, for some cause the writer hereof was singled out as the Nimrod of the party, and duly authorized to make forays upon the swine, the deer, and the feathered tribes. This may have been complimentary to his skill as a dead shot, or, what is more probable, out of deference to his apparently delicate health, and inability to share in the heavier work on the farm. At any rate, duly mounted, armed and equipped, I sallied forth daily in quest of venison and other food, and met of course with various and exciting adventures. The element of danger was indeed wanting. No deadly encounter with a grizzly bear, or pitched battle with a catamount, or perilous set to with wolves can lend a thrilling interest to these pages. The hunter who should come to these woods and prairies expecting game worthy a Du Chaillu, would find himself sadly mistaken. That he would

“Chase the antelope over the plain,
And bind the tiger's cub with a chain,”

is more than doubtful. He would do no such thing. He would ride cautiously along a path, evidently beaten by domestic animals. He might possibly get a shot at a deer, or bring down a turkey, or a goose; but in the absence of such game he would turn to the unfailing hog, game so ignoble, that he would consider the killing of such as a blemish upon his fair fame as a hunter. It is no better than slaughter to kill an animal that can neither fight nor run. Occasionally, however, a member of the swinish multitude can do both, and sometimes even a pig dies game. I was once riding out, armed only with a revolver, when a large hog jumped up a few hundred yards in advance, and commenced running for the timber, nearly a mile distant. I gave chase and was soon near enough to lodge a ball in his head. This only maddened him, and he turned and showed fight, then ran, and whenever overtaken would turn to fight until another pistol ball sent him on his way again. His tenacity of life was wonderful. He kept up this running fight till eight pistol balls were lodged in his head and body, and after all he was not worth the killing, and I was obliged to leave his worthless carcass on the ground, amidst the jeers of my friends, who having heard my rapid firing, had come to see for themselves what magnificent game I had taken. Deer not unfrequently yielded up their lives in a manner as inglorious as some of these stupid swine. Shortly after we camped at this place, a fine young deer deliberately ran up to within a few feet of one of our men, at work at the time, and was brought down by a bullet from a small revolver. Late one evening, a young man was returning in a wagon with some ladies, when two or three deer started up, ran a short distance and stopped in some high weeds, about fifty yards away. The young man taking a gun pointed it in the direction in which the deer were supposed to be, and fired. Hearing something fall, he groped

his way out in the direction that he had pointed his gun, and to his astonishment found a large buck struggling in the death agonies. The ladies helped him lift it into the wagon, and he drove on rejoicing in the success of his first shot. A true hunter would not, perhaps, enjoy the killing of game under such circumstances as the last mentioned. His enjoyment is in overcoming difficulties and the display of skill, strategy, and in accuracy of aim. *Our* primary object was to obtain supplies for the table, and we were consequently satisfied with less brilliant exploits than would have satisfied the professional Nimrod. Nevertheless, we felt, as the winter advanced, more and more the charm of this wild life, and the bringing in of a deer, or any game worthy of our lead, was always an occasion for congratulation. The Osage Indians came from the Neosho river, 28 miles west of our camp, and killed great numbers of deer in our neighborhood. These experienced hunters would set the prairies on fire, and as the flames swept onward with the wind, deer, wolves, and other animals would flee before them only to fall at last by the unerring rifle of the Indian. A grander sight than these burning prairies I have seldom or never witnessed. At night, especially, was the scene sublimely grand. The red flames sweeping over the grass with the speed of a race horse, the lurid heavens, the dense volume of smoke, itself almost as luminous as the flames beneath, the terror-stricken animals in tumultuous flight, formed a spectacle not easily forgotten. A Western poet has most vividly described the scene :

“ Out of the wood at midnight,
The swift red hunters came ;
The prairie was their hunting ground,
The bison was their game ;
Their spears were of glistening silver,
Their crests were of blue and gold ;
Driven by the panting winds of heaven,
Their shining chariots rolled.

“Over that level hunting ground—
Oh what a strife was there!
What a shouting—what a threatening cry—
What a murmur in the air!
Their garments over the glowing wheels
Streamed backward red and far;
And they flouted their purple banners
In the face of each pale star.”

Our own most exciting chase occurred about Christmas. There had fallen about three inches of snow, the heaviest fall during the winter. Several of our party rode out together into the prairie, and encountered five or six deer that were coming toward us with the speed of the wind, evidently with the intention of taking refuge in the timber. All attempts on our part to head them off and drive them back into the prairie failed, and my comrades gave up the chase as useless. I followed them still farther, hoping to catch a glimpse of one and to obtain a shot, when, unexpectedly, I encountered a herd of twenty-six deer, standing upon the crest of a mound and gazing at me with evident curiosity and perplexity. The other members of the party meanwhile came up to them on the other side of the mound, whereupon, frightened by the number of my friends, they rushed toward me as being, probably, of no consequence, and for a while it seemed as if I should be trampled under foot by them. My good horse however, proved at once an obstacle to them and a protection to me. I spurred him as though I would join the throng of panic-stricken fugitives, and by a dextrous shot was enabled to bring down the hindermost, which proved quite an acquisition to our store of provisions.

The winter passed away pleasantly enough. The long evenings were devoted to books, to conversation, and to such games of skill as chess and draughts. Occasionally we had a lecture, for we were resolved not to be behind the age in any particular. Although nearly secluded from the busy world we kept up a lively interest in its

affairs, and perhaps relished what little information we received of passing events all the more because of the difficulty of obtaining it. Still we enjoyed our isolated position, and should have enjoyed it had we been entirely cut off from the great world, for we had what Crusoe on his island did not have, the companionship of sympathising friends. We spent our waking hours in healthy toil, or just as healthy recreations, in cheerful converse, and in listening to the rhapsodies of our friend, the philosophic Beam, who almost persuaded us that "the good time coming" had already come.

CHAPTER VIII.

EXPEDITION TO ARKANSAS—REDING'S MILL—NEOSHO—PINEVILLE—A DILAPIDATED VILLAGE—CAMP ON BIG SUGAR CREEK—BEAUTIFUL WINTER SCENE—A RICH COUNTRY—CLIMATE MILD—MYRIADS OF BIRDS—WINTER GRAPES—BENTON COUNTY—ABSENCE OF THE SCHOOL MASTER—HUMAN VEGETABLES—A "NATIVE" RIP VAN WINKLEISM—MADISON COUNTY—CARROLL COUNTY—FRUIT—SOIL—CLIMATE—OUR RETURN TO SPRING RIVER—BAXTER'S SPRINGS—FERTILITY AND VALUE OF THE LANDS KNOWN AS THE "GOVERNMENT STRIP"—CONCLUSION—"HOMES FOR ALL."

There were discontented spirits in heaven, and as yet no earthly paradise has been free from them. Man is restless, not so much from the infelicities of his position as from a desire to extend the domain of his knowledge. The prince in the happy valley pined to cross the mountain walls that shut him in. The desire to know more tempts man away from the threshold of home. With no better excuse than this a few of us determined upon further explorations, and to leave, for a time at least, the happy dwellers in the vale. About the first of January, 1866, a couple of gentlemen from Allen county passed

through our settlement on their way to northwestern Arkansas, and five from our neighborhood, including the writer, joined them. Our first camp was at Redding's Mill, a description of which has been given elsewhere. The second day we traveled as far as Neosho, the county seat of Newton county, Missouri, and on the third day we entered McDonald county, and passed through Pineville, the county town. The country passed over on the third day did not impress us as favorably as that passed on the two preceding days. It was hilly and much of the surface was covered with a species of white flint stones. The timber looked well. Pineville is a sadly dilapidated village at the head of Elk river. The county of which it is the capitol has some good lands, but is thinly settled, and was almost depopulated during the war. There are within its limits some very large pineries, and several steam saw mills are at work cutting the timber into planks.

We camped the third night on Big Sugar creek, three miles east of Pineville. Although it was in the dead of winter, the evergreen hills before us and around us almost cheated us into the belief that we were in a land of perennial spring. The breezes murmured softly through the rustling pines, and diffused their balmy odors far around.

As we were preparing to go into camp, a large flock of wild turkeys crossed the road a couple of hundred yards ahead of us. What a golden opportunity for a shot! The birds were too fleet for our "mighty hunters," and the bullets sent after them had the only perceptible effect of hastening their flight. I had a beautiful sunset view from the summit of the hills near by, one of the finest I had ever looked upon. On the fourth day, we traveled eighteen miles on the Bentonville road. The country through which we passed was fertile in appearance. The rich bottoms of Sugar creek were especially attractive. We noticed here

vast quantities of winter grapes, luscious and tempting, millions of birds making merry over their endless feast. It seems as if the Author of all being, out of consideration for these little feathered songsters, had created this fruit as food for them during the dreary winter. We passed much delightful scenery. The hills along our route were covered with a fine growth of yellow pine, the timber from which, at no very distant day, must prove valuable. There are also to be found in these hills numerous indications of mineral, that one day may prove a source of wealth.

Although the country is generally hilly, there is occasionally a prairie a few miles in width, and rich and fertile as are most of our prairies. The remarkable mildness of the climate in this latitude, and at this season, rendered our winter tour very agreeable. We slept on the ground, with a few blankets beneath us, and were as comfortable as we would have been in June. The grass was green, and the buds on the maple and elm trees along the way were swelling as rapidly as in the northern States in April. The county (Benton) was thinly settled. The war had very materially interfered with its prosperity and retarded its growth. We saw but few people. Occasionally, we met with a genuine "Arkansaw traveler," sallow-faced, stoop-shouldered, lank, long-haired, angular, and awkward. The school master has not been abroad in this region, or at home either. School houses are very few and far between; in many places entirely unknown. What does the "native" before-mentioned care for education, so long as he can get along without it? Nature has saved him the trouble of brain or hand labor. He lives on the good, free gifts of Nature.

"Her trees in summer yield him food,
In winter fire."

Where Nature does most for man, he does least for himself. The necessity for labor blesses those on whom

it falls ; idleness depraves and thoroughly demoralizes its unhappy subjects. Necessity sharpens the wits of men. The absence of it steepens their mental as well as physical being in indolence and dullness. There are places where men do not *live* in any true or exalted sense ; they simply vegetate as do the beets and carrots, lifting their heads it is true into the air and light of heaven, but rooted all the while to the sordid earth. An instance or two will be sufficient to show the low intellectual grade of these human vegetables. I passed one day a medium-sized dwelling, the general style of which indicated an owner well-to-do in the world, and possibly one of the aristocrats of the neighborhood. The door stood invitingly open ; and wishing to rest awhile, as well as to form the acquaintance of the owner of the mansion, I approached the door, and was somewhat surlily invited to take a chair. The reserve of mine host wearing off, he became quite loquacious, and having been a rebel, he had a doleful story to relate of wrongs suffered at the hands of Old Abe, who was still, according to his account, violating the Constitution and ruining the country generally, and oppressing him in particular. He expressed the greatest surprise when I told him that the President had been dead almost a year. I asked him if the Arkansas Legislature had met during the winter. He did not know, but was certain they had not met in his neighborhood. If they had, he did not know it. He wanted to know if I was one of them fellows. He did not know the name of the county in which he lived, or whether it was a county or not. This man owned a fine farm and mill, and was probably a fair representative of the people of his neighborhood. A story, not long since, went the rounds of the papers, to the effect that a colporteur in this, or some of the adjacent settlements, asked a woman if there were any Presbyterians in the neighborhood. She, thinking that he referred to some species of

catamount, or other "wild varmints," answered that she thought not; at any rate, her husband had not killed any tharabouts for a long time.

Many of the farmers had no title to their lands other than a squatter's title, and in other instances they had entered and improved a few acres, but had laid claim to large tracts of land adjacent. We would not leave the impression that this part of Arkansas is dark and benighted beyond all other portions of our country, for we have in mind a very secluded "settlement" in Indiana, where it is said the people still vote for General Jackson on election day, and consider all accounts of the late war to be Whig lies, gotten up to defeat the hero of New Orleans. If these people in Arkansas still voted for Jackson, it would perhaps be better for them. Rip Van Winkles are well enough in their way, and are not noticed as long as they continue to slumber, but when they awaken they become ridiculous, and utterly fail, as these people do, to comprehend the situation.

Madison county, through which we next passed, did not very favorably impress our regard. It is well watered by King's river and its tributaries, and has plenty of timber, but it is mountainous and thinly settled. Carroll county, lying east of Madison, is hilly, but well timbered and improved. It has on the hills abundance of pine, and in the bottoms a fine growth of oak. Grapes flourish here, and some of the oldest inhabitants told me that the peach crop has never been known to fail, and that apples and all the fruits of this latitude do equally well. The country has also mineral resources that some day may be profitably developed. We satisfied ourselves as to the healthfulness of the climate, and returned to our friends with a good report of the country. Leaving the people out of the question, the part of Arkansas that we visited offers very decided advantages to those seeking a home. It is salu-

brious, and though hilly, well timbered, and a rich fruit growing region. There are small prairies well adapted to farming and grazing. Cotton, hemp, tobacco, and all kinds of grain grow here. There are plentiful indications of iron, lead, and copper. There are, in fact, few countries to be found equaling this in the richness and variety of its resources. To crown this exuberance of advantages, there are great quantities of government land not yet entered. Of course, many or most of the advantages named are shared by the contiguous counties in Missouri and Kansas, and in these States there are as yet greater social and political freedom and security. To enjoy the fairest regions of the earth, we must forego many of the privileges and blessings enjoyed in localities not so well favored by nature. The emigrants from the older States must leave their churches and school houses, and other appliances of civilization, and come to a country as yet comparatively destitute of them. But let them only come, and the others will follow in their train. It is only a question of time. This broad and beautiful country will be—must be—reclaimed.

We returned to our friends at Spring river, and made our report after the manner of the spies when they returned from the land of Canaan, not omitting mention of the Canaanites who dwelt over the border.

In March, I visited Baxter Springs, on the government strip, which consists of a piece of land three miles in width and twenty-five miles in length, lying south of the Cherokee neutral lands, and east of the Neosho river. This country abounds in coal, oil, and timber, and has besides a fertile soil. South of this strip dwell the small tribes of Pawpaws and Delawares, with a few other tribes nearly extinct. They are partially civilized, and speak enough English to carry on trading transactions.

It is difficult to speak of this country without praising

it. It is difficult to praise it justly without seeming to exaggerate its merits, and we shall, therefore, leave much unsaid. We do not ask the emigrant to accept our report without question. We may point out localities that will be found on examination to be all that we could desire, but he must, after all, judge for himself. Here is a broad, beautiful, fertile country, open to all—inviting all. Would any one know more of its beauties, let him come and see.

We can not better close this imperfect description of this pleasant land, than by quoting entire a poem published anonymously, many years ago, in the *Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper*. True and spirited as it then was, it is now a hundred fold more applicable :

“HOMES FOR ALL.”

“Let the staid old East in her pride grow gray,
In an ardent song sing of days gone by;
Let her build her domes, stow her wealth away,
And point to the graves where our forefathers lie—
We will turn to the West, the strong young West,
To the wilds that rang to the panther’s call,
To the sods the red man’s feet have pressed,
To the homes for the million—homes for all.

“Let her sing of her Hudson’s silvery sheen,
Of her clear blue lakes and crystal rills,
Of her rugged mountains, her valleys green,
Of her blossoming meads, her emerald hills—
We will shout for the West, the gay young West,
For the vales where the sunset shadows fall,
For the broad bright prairies in beauty dressed,
For the homes for the million—homes for all.

“Let her sing of the deeds of Adams and Jay,
Of the time when the souls of her sons were tried;
Let her turn to battlements worn and gray,
Where her warriors fought and martyrs died—
We will sing of the West, the blithe young West,
Where the herdsman lustily shouts his call,
While his flocks come bounding in hosts abreast,
Of the homes for millions—homes for all.”

“Let her point her sons to the Plymouth rock,
To the pilgrim band by the desolate sea,
Who dared the waves and the tempest’s shock,
For the glorious guerdon of liberty—
We have builded our homes in the wide, free West,
Where a serf never lists to a tyrant’s call;
And we shout to the world with a hearty zest,
Here are homes for her millions—homes for all.

“Then adieu to the East, the gray old East,
We have builded our hearths where the wild grass waves;
We have taken the lairs of the frightened beast,
And we rest by the red men’s sunken graves;
We are strong in will with a yeoman’s zest,
And smile at the pride of a marble hall;
We have homes in the West, in the wild, wide West,
And enough for the million—enough for all.”

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

As I am in daily receipt of letters asking almost innumerable questions, and as I can not take the time to answer each separately, it may not be amiss to devote a few pages to the answer of such questions as shall be of general interest to the capitalist and emigrant.

A capitalist writes : " Tell me candidly what you think of the Southwest : will railroads be constructed, and land and property advance in value in the same proportion as it has in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and other States in the last ten years ? "

Yes ; railroads will be constructed as fast as the people demand them ; *i. e.*, as fast as stock, grain, and the southwestern minerals demand an entrance to Eastern markets. The enterprising people of the Southwest appreciate too well the advantage of having the " iron horse " snorting through their hills and valleys to remain there long without him. It is enough for me to say, that this country is being filled up with the " universal Yankee." They will not long endure the tardy motion of the stage coach. Several railroads are already constructed through this part of Missouri and Kansas, and several others are under contemplation, some of them under construction.

As to the increase in value of real estate, I do know that with the advancement of the age, scientific improvements advance, and population increases very rapidly. New States, and especially Missouri and Kansas, are being settled much faster than the preceding ones were. Of course the valuation of their lands must increase at

a corresponding ratio. Remember, this is eminently a "progressive age."

Another writes: "How are political matters: are the people Radical or Conservative?"

I am aware this is a critical question—one which demands a candid answer. Let me say, this country is filled with just such people as you send it from older States, and the crossing of the "Father of Waters" has not effected a great political or religious change in their sentiments. The people of this country are both Radical and Conservative. Each party, in my judgment, has its radical and conservative elements; that is, they are mixed; and each party is represented in every village and hamlet in the Southwest. Further, it is my opinion, that each party is beginning to look beyond mere party to the truths of the higher law.

Third question: "We hear of mobs, of regulators, and their hanging men; of men being killed, etc. Is it safe for strangers to go to that country: is there not danger of their being mobbed, or waylaid, or robbed?"

In answer to this, I will state the fact, that I have traveled constantly for the last two years through the Southwest. At times I have pursued my journey by night and day, alone and with company; at times have carried thousands of dollars, and I have never been molested, nor have I seen any very suspicious looking men or women. I do know that small country papers have blown quite a good deal over some very heroic deeds of certain good but misguided persons, calling themselves *Regulators*, who, like "Saul of Tarsus," verily thought it their duty to resort to brutal measures to enforce the will of God. Like Paul, when the scales shall have fallen from their eyes, they will see that instead of enforcing the ways of heaven, and bringing the millennium by means of their mobocratic

reign, they will learn that they have only kindled a fire in which many of themselves must be consumed. Such will eventually learn, as all must, that the only effective way of overcoming evil is in good. All evil has its foundation in ignorance ; therefore, as a knowledge of truth and right increase, evil gives place to its opposite. Hence, I say, let the country be filled with law-abiding, intelligent citizens, who are capable of demonstrating in their daily lives that "God's ways are ways of pleasantness, and all his paths are peace."

Pardon this digression. Suffice it to say, that many of the newspaper reports concerning the work of the Regulators have been greatly exaggerated. A scarcity of items of news has probably been the cause. Really, I would feel more safe in traveling through Missouri and Kansas than in many of the older States, where robbers and gamblers crowd the streets and public places of the crowded cities, ever on the lookout to take advantage of the unwary.

Another writes : "I am a common laborer ; is there a plenty of work to do in that new country, and what are wages?"

I answer : Every avocation open for man generally is open here. Wages range anywhere from fifty cents to five dollars per day. There are here, as in all other countries, land sharks and speculators, who go on the principle, "Get all you can and keep all you get." Still the improvement of farms, building of towns, cities, and railroads, and developing of the latent mineral resources of the great Southwest, keeps up an unceasing demand for laborers. I feel quite safe in saying, that the demand for laborers is quite as great in these parts at this time as in any other part of the Union. There is a great demand for miners. For particular information upon this point,

address a private letter to C. C. Root, or W. W. Donham, Springfield, Mo. However, I can not close this paragraph without premising that the best opening of all is for the farmer. Those who come determined to subdue the earth, have here a climate, water, and soil all bidding them come.

Another writes: "What of the society of that new country: are the people morally on a level with those of older States?"

That, kind reader, depends much upon who gives the decision. The people here have been torn from their old associations, and new ones are continually being formed. "Our minister," "our church," and "our creed," are not held in quite the same reverence as in older States. This may be regarded as a blessing, or a curse; much depends upon the eyes through which it is seen. To the one wearing green goggles, everything is green. To the individual looking through old institutions, everything not partaking of them is, of course, not so well. While others, looking through other goggles, will say it is better. It is not the object of this book to judge of such matters; it is enough that I state facts as they are concerning the great Southwest. Perhaps the number of opinions concerning the moral status of this country could only be limited by the number answering the question.

"The blind man never sees the sun,
Altho' the sun doth shine;
The deaf man never hears the sound
In melodies sublime."

The soil, climate, water, timber, and people of the Southwestern portion of Missouri and Kansas offer such a diversity, that he who could not, in some part of it, find that which suited him, would be indeed hard to please. The broad acres, rich mines, and people of this country unite in inviting emigrants to its extended resources.

Come with energy and muscle, and by labor prove the divinity of the saying, "The wilderness shall blossom as the rose."

Still another writes: "What of churches and schools?"

I answer: Every church is represented. There are "isms," and "ites," under every shade and name, from the Calvinist to the Spiritualist. Why should there not be? Our country is filled with such as once resided in the older States, about the only difference being, those coming here are usually men and women of energy, while many in the older States simply remain there because of a lack of energy to get away. The breaking up of old and forming of new relations, has caused many to grow wiser, and to see that there is truth, goodness and purity outside their own party; and many are loving truth, purity and goodness for its own sake, not for the sake of a particular church or creed. Forms and ceremonies are more rapidly in this than in other countries, giving place to true Christianity; men are looking more at the true spirit-work, becoming *progressive Christians*, and see their duty more each day in carrying a vital principle of godliness into their daily dealings with their fellow men than in external forms and ceremonies.

THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

There are yet over 3,000,000 acres of United States government land in Missouri subject to entry at \$1.25 and \$2.50 per acre, or subject to entry under the liberal provisions of the Homestead Act. For the purpose of furnishing the often desired information to immigrants, the law to secure homesteads to actual settlers is herewith published.

Messrs. George W. Boardman, at Boonville, Mo., J. S. Waddell, at Springfield, Mo., and James Lindsay, at Iron-ton, Mo., Registers and Receivers of the United States Land Offices in this State, are prepared to receive applications and affidavits, the applicant paying the \$10 fee stipulated in the act, and one per cent. as commissions to said officers, who will give any further information required.

AN ACT

TO SECURE HOMESTEADS TO ACTUAL SETTLERS ON THE
PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of the United States; or who shall have filed his declaration of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, and who has never borne arms against the United States government, or given aid and comfort to its enemies, shall, from and after the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be entitled to enter one quarter section, or a less quantity of unappropriated public lands, upon which said person may have filed a pre-emption claim, or which may, at the time the application is made, be subject to pre-emption at one dollar and twenty-five cents, or less,

per acre; or eighty acres or less of such unappropriated lands, at two dollars and fifty cents per acre, to be located in a body, in conformity to the legal subdivisions of the public lands, and after the same shall have been surveyed: *Provided*, That any person owning and residing on land may, under the provisions of this act, enter other land lying contiguous to his or her said land, which shall not, with the land so already owned and occupied, exceed in the aggregate one hundred and sixty acres.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the person applying for the benefit of this act shall, upon application to the register of the land office, in which he or she is about to make such entry, make affidavit before the said register or receiver that he or she is the head of a family, or is twenty-one or more years of age, or shall have performed service in the army or navy of the United States, and that he has never borne arms against the government of the United States, or given aid and comfort to its enemies, and that such application is made for his or her exclusive use and benefit, and that said entry is made for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation, and not, either directly or indirectly, for the use or benefit of any other person or persons whomsoever; and upon filing the said affidavit with the register or receiver, and on payment of ten dollars, he or she shall thereupon be permitted to enter the quantity of land specified: *Provided however*, That no certificate shall be given, or patent issued therefor, until the expiration of five years from the date of such entry; and if, at the expiration of such time, or any time within two years thereafter, the person making such entry—or if he be dead, his widow; or in case of her death, his heirs or devisee; or in case a widow making such entry, her heirs or devisee, in case of her death—shall prove by two credible witnesses that he, she, or they have resided upon or cultivated the same for the term of five years immediately succeeding the time of filing the affidavit aforesaid, and shall make affidavit that no part of said land has been alienated, and he has borne true allegiance to the government of the United States, then, in such case, he, she, or they, if at that time a citizen of the United States, shall be entitled to a patent, as in other cases provided for by law: *And provided further*, That in case of the death of both father and mother, and leaving an infant child, or children under twenty-one years of age, the right and fee shall inure to the benefit of said infant child or children; and the executor, administrator, or guardian may, at any time within two years after the death of the surviving parent, and in accordance with the laws of the State in which such children, for the time being, have their domicile, sell said lands for the benefit of said infants, but for no

other purpose; and the purchaser shall acquire the absolute title by the purchase, and be entitled to a patent from the United States, on payment of the office fees and sum of money herein specified.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the register of the land office shall note all such applications on the tract books and plats of his office, and keep a register of all such entries, and make return thereof to the General Land Office, together with the proof upon which they have been founded.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That no lands acquired under the provisions of this act shall in any event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing of the patent therefor.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That if, at any time after the filing of the affidavit, as required in the second section of this act, and before the expiration of the five years aforesaid, it shall be proven, after due notice to the settler, to the satisfaction of the register of the land office, that the person having filed such affidavit shall have actually changed his or her residence, or abandoned the said land for more than six months at any time, then and in that event the land so entered shall revert to the government.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That no individual shall be permitted to acquire title to more than one quarter section under the provisions of this act; and that the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby required to prepare and issue such rules and regulations, consistent with this act, as shall be necessary and proper to carry its provisions into effect, and the registers and receivers of the several land offices shall be entitled to receive the same compensation for any lands entered under the provisions of this act that they are now entitled to receive when the same quantity of land is entered with money, one-half to be paid by the person making the application at the time of so doing, and the other half on the issue of the certificate by the person to whom it may be issued; but this shall not be construed to enlarge the maximum of compensation now prescribed by law for any register or receiver: *Provided*, That nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to impair or interfere in any manner whatever with existing pre-emption rights: *And provided further*, That all persons who may have filed their applications for a pre-emption right prior to the passage of this act shall be entitled to all privileges of this act: *Provided further*, That no person who has served, or who may hereafter serve, for a period of not less than fourteen days in the army or navy of the United States, either regular or volunteer, under the laws thereof, during the existence of an actual

war, domestic or foreign, shall be deprived of the benefits of this act on account of not having attained the age of twenty-one years.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the fifth section of the act entitled "An act in addition to an act more effectually to provide for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, and for other purposes," approved the third of March, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, shall extend to all oaths, affirmations, and affidavits, required or authorized by this act.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent any person who has availed him or herself of the benefits of the first section of this act from paying the minimum price, or price to which the same may have graduated, for the quantity of land so entered at any time before the expiration of the five years, and obtaining a patent therefor from the government, as in other cases provided by law, on making proof of settlement and cultivation, as provided by existing laws guaranteeing pre-emption rights.

Approved May 20, 1862.

W. W. DONHAM,
WAR CLAIM AGENT,
SPRINGFIELD, MO.

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Successfully prosecutes all claims against the United States, and State of Missouri; and to all men in Southwest Missouri, and Northwestern Arkansas, who wish to engage in the Claim Business, will furnish blanks, advertising matter, &c., and divide fees equally on claims taken.

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Represents some of the best Fire, Life, and Accident Insurance Companies in the United States, both Eastern and Western, among which is the "Cincinnati Home," and "Fire and Marine," of Kentucky, Fire Companies; the "Globe Mutual," of New York, and "Mississippi Valley," of Kentucky, Life Companies; and the "Western Transit," of St. Louis, one of the leading Accident Companies in the West. Also, the "Missouri State Horse Insurance Company," Palmyra, Mo., insures live stock against theft, also against death by disease or accident. This is beyond doubt the leading Live Stock Company in the West.

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Owens and has for sale the following described lands:

360 acres, lies twelve miles north of Warsaw, Benton County, Mo., on the main State Road from Sedalia to Springfield, Mo.

280 acres of high, nice prairie, every acre of which can be cultivated, and 80 acres of splendid timber. This can be divided so as to make two beautiful farms of 180 acres each. There is everlasting stock water, 45 acres in cultivation, and house on it, with well dug and walled. This farm is in a fine locality for a country hotel and wagon yard, also for a stage stand. An energetic man, with a small capital, can, in a few years, make a fortune on this farm.

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FRAZIER'S LANDS

In Jasper county, comprise a body of sixty thousand acres, and are principally situated in the north and northwestern parts of the county. These possess all the desirable characteristics of the best lands of the county. The surface is gently undulating, never breaking into bluffs or hills, but is remarkably well drained. Good springs are everywhere abundant. They are chiefly composed of the well known "mulatto soil," which is universally preferred to all others, and successfully endures the severest tests of farming. The belt of land in which these are located can not be surpassed for general production and capability of high and continuous cultivation. For all the purposes of the farmer, fruit grower, and stock raiser, no lands can be better adapted. They are located in a county which all admit to be the best in Southwest Missouri, and which is rapidly filling up with the most desirable class of settlers. Mr. Frazier, with his usual enterprise, has sent to Germany for five hundred families to be located on his lands. Land is steadily rising in value. These lands are offered to actual settlers at \$10 per acre, on nine years' credit without interest, no payments required until the ninth year. Deeds will be made upon payment of purchase money at any time within the nine years.

FRAZIER'S LANDS IN TANEY COUNTY

Consist of several thousand acres of the finest mineral lands in the county or State. All who have examined the region in which they are located testify to the exceeding abundance and richness of the lead ore. Prof. Swallow, in his Geological Report, states that 20,000 pounds of fine ore were taken from a shaft but ten feet deep, and that a neighboring shaft yielded 170,000 pounds per week. New and extensive discoveries are being constantly made. No region can offer greater inducements to those interested in mining than this. Its great wealth is a fixed fact, and is only waiting to be fully developed.

Apply to Wm. Frazier, No. 12 New Street, New York, or to O. S. Pitcher, Preston, Jasper County, Mo.

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J. W. PARKER, General Agent and Adjuster.

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THREE EXPRESS TRAINS DAILY.

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No. 1 Eastern Express, 5.15 A. M. This train stops at Bunker Hill for breakfast. Making direct connections for New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, Washington, and all Eastern Cities, from seven to ten hours in advance of the morning trains of competing lines.

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ALL CHANGES OF CARS IN UNION DEPOTS.

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Stages connect at Jerome for Waynesville, Lebanon, Springfield, Hartsville, and Neosho; also, for Salem and the Southwest generally.

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ONLY ALL RAIL LINE
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TWO THROUGH TRAINS
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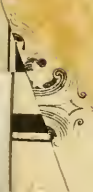
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END, STARV.



A detailed historical map of the Texas Panhandle and northern Texas, showing the Texas Panhandle Railroad and the Texas Cattle Trail. The map includes major cities like Amarillo, Dalhart, Dalworth, and Dalway, and features the Texas Cattle Trail running from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico. The Texas Panhandle Railroad is shown running from Amarillo to Dalhart. The map also shows the Texas Cattle Trail running from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico. The map is titled 'THE TEXAS PANHANDLE RAILROAD AND THE TEXAS CATTLE TRAIL'.

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SCALE

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No. of Policies on force, over	Total losses paid to date,
41,000	\$5,885,807 00
Income for year ending Jan. 31st, 1967,	Total dividends paid to insured,
\$8,288,709 12	\$3,740,228 00
Amount of losses paid during the year,	Policies issued during the year,
\$1,030,250 00	14,138
Received for interest during the year,	Total Assets, over
\$1,057,135 80	\$15,000,000 00
Excess of interest over losses,	Amount invested in St. Louis,
\$38,885 80	\$1,250,000 00

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SHERMAN & HODGES,
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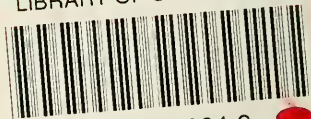




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